

ARMY



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SUBMARINE WARFARE.

IN the spring of 1852, the Hon. WILLIAM A. GRAHAM, then Secretary of the Navy, in response to a letter offering to our Government the refusal of a submarine invention, wrote that "the boats used by the Navy go on, and not under, the water." Assuredly the fine old North Carolinian, who has meanwhile himself gone under politically, as little anticipated while penning this sententious answer the "sea-change" as the sectional one which was to come after him.

A "sea-change" has indeed transpired. And strangely enough, the Secretary's own South, that part of the Federal body from which men have been least used to look for the appearance of innovation's meddling fingers, has been most instrumental in bringing it about. Of all the writers on the war, we have yet to meet with the first one who has done anything like justice to the mechanical as well as the material resources which the South developed. We cannot commend to the next Southerner who essays a history of the great rebellion a better service to his copartisans than to exhaustively record the shrewd devices and novel appliances that grew out of the needs of the hour.

Of the submarine explosives produced and tested by the Confederates—and there were at least a score of them—Lieutenant-Commander BARNES furnishes, so far as we can judge, a correct description in his recent volume. There is no stronger indication of the earnestness with which the South went into the fight, no more palpable symptom that it "meant business" at the start, than the sudden and apparently general preference for torpedoes. The naval direction of the Confederacy, was in the hands of men who had gained experience and position under the old flag. In sympathy with their old comrades of the Union Navy, and with the profession all over the world, they must have contemned at heart a resort to what had always been considered a diabolical system of warfare. The answer of Mr. GRAHAM plainly shows how, in 1852, the United States regarded submarine vessels. Not the least interesting portion of Commander BARNES's book is the history of the torpedo invention, a perusal of which will indicate how hard a struggle science has had to fight against prejudice. The inconsiderable results of DAVID BUSHNELL's submarine attacks upon the blockading fleet in 1777, aroused British choler to a very sublimity of profane denunciation. When FULTON, eighteen years subsequent, obtained the great Premier's approval of his torpedo, the Earl St. VINCENT spoke the unanimous opinion of English sailors, that "PITT was the greatest fool that ever existed, to encourage a mode of war which they who commanded the seas did not

want, and which if successful, would deprive them of it." The same inventor was expelled from a French admiral's office with the kindly advice, "Go, sir; your invention may be useful to the Algerines and Corsairs, but learn that France has not yet abandoned the ocean." Our Commodore ROGERS, first of a line of naval heroes, found his professional *esprit* equally offended by the torpedo, but preferred to overwhelm the inventor in the American way, by ridicule and practically demonstrating the inefficiency of his crude and ill-prepared assault. The benevolent soul of JOHN QUINCY ADAMS could not restrain its aversion for Colonel COLT's last and greatest discovery, characterizing his blowing up of vessels by electrically ignited shells as "cowardly and no fair or honest warfare." And as late as the spring of 1864, two years after a sad experience had made us familiar with this new marine assailant, FARRAGUT, who stuck to his wooden walls to the last, conceived it professionally incumbent upon him to explain as a compensatory provision his placing of torpedoes in the *Brooklyn*, in the following language: "I have always deemed it unworthy of a chivalrous nation, but it does not always do to give your enemy such a decided superiority over you." The late Rear-Admiral DUPONT, shortly before his death, gave expression to similar sentiments in conversation with the editor of this journal.

The Confederates, ignoring the fair play of ADAMS and the chivalry of FARRAGUT and DUPONT, adopted the conclusion of ST. VINCENT. And, had they done so a twelvemonth earlier, it is questionable whether the success of their ingenious devices would not have deprived us of the command of the harbors at least. In October 1862, by an act of the rebel Congress, the torpedo was made a legitimate engine of warfare, a secret service corps was formed and a "Torpedo Bureau" established in Richmond. With a coast line of immense extent, numerous navigable rivers threading and opening their territory to hostile approach, and almost absolutely without a navy, the self justification which we find in a report of one of their examining boards—"We consider the employment of submarines as a legitimate mode of defence, and feel it a duty to recommend torpedoes as a powerful accessory to our limited means"—seems essentially superfluous.

Our space forbids an elaborate description of the rebel "Torpedo Bureau," as well as of the various infernal contrivances with which it soon made every Southern harbor and estuary unpleasant holding grounds for Federal bottoms. Ex-Commodore MAURY and after him, General RAINS, was the chief at Richmond. Subsidiary corps operated all over the South, in constant communication with the centre, and together comprising the secret service corps above alluded to. The "Department of Submarine Defences," in Charleston alone numbered more than fifty officers, and we need not remind our readers how much the unremitting effort of those men, of whom most had belonged to the Union service, contributed to the prolonged closing of that harbor to our vessels.

The initial essay of the Confederates was a but slightly improved reproduction of the floating infernal machines, sent down the Delaware in 1778, the invention of DAVID BUSHNELL, which threw the British fleet into a ludicrous delirium of terror, and delivered a contemporary muse of that face-

tions lyric,—"The battle of the kegs." In most instances, however, the Confederate engineers deviated from the revolutionary precedent so far as to anchor their kegs in the shape of a slightly-submerged abattis, entirely across a river or channel. The absolute autocracy under which the South waged war was illustrated in the provision made for the collection of the kegs. By order a general confiscation of lager-bier casks was enforced, and the German vender of King Gambrinus's nectar, might as well have been in the grasp of a Massachusetts constabulary as within despoiling reach of a secret service agent.

Rebel ingenuity did not long confine itself, however, to a device so crude, and which had no more serious effect than to temporarily detain the invader.

The officers engaged soon produced submarine results which called into use the best resources, mental and mechanical, on the side of our Government to render them innocuous or avoidable. The whole subject of fuses, fulminates, and mode of ignition, was subjected to exhaustive testing. Torpedoes were sunk in a manner which seemed to defy discovery or removal, in a profusion and of a power before unthought of. Experience demonstrating that explosives which depended upon contact or friction for discharge were at the best uncertain, Colonel COLT's system of electric-firing was returned to, and the last achievements of science subsidized for purposes hardly contemplated by its professors.

Although our attention is at present directed to the submarine operations of the Confederates, two inventions of similar destructive character but acting in the upper element, should not be neglected. In 1864, a terrible explosion occurred at the City Point station, while a large work of unloading stores and munitions was going on. This blow, which was most severe in its loss of life and property, was not an accident. Before it took place a man in the garb of a laborer was seen to pass on to the dock, carrying under his arm an ordinary packing-box, which from its appearance might well have been an item of stores for some waiting transport. But inside the box were 50 pounds of gunpowder, and a curious application of clock-work in dangerous juxtaposition to a coil of fuse from the rebel laboratory. The man deposited his box carelessly on the dock and went away with assumed indifference; but his visit was afterward remembered when the cause of the explosion came to be inquired into. A still more diabolical contrivance was that termed the "coal torpedo;"—in appearance an innocent lump of coal of the large size used in steamers, but in reality a block of cast-iron, cored and filled with powder. Rebel ingenuity was so successful in fashioning this anomalous shell into its honest semblance, that many otherwise unaccountable explosions on board our river craft were explained by the presence of this unsuspected counterfeit in the coal-bunkers. A captured document, incorporated in a foot-note by Commander BARNES, shows that this truly infernal invention was not only approved by DAVIS and SEDDON, but that another secret service corps was to have been established especially for its management and distribution. It is noticeable that this last organization of a secret service corps is about coincident with the advent of the hotel incendiaries in our Northern cities, and

there is small risk of injustice in the assumption that the villains who waged war with phosphorus and camphene belonged to an association which such men as MAURY, GREY, and others of the original "Torpedo Bureau," must have thoroughly despised.

Even a cursory glance at the ample detail in Lieutenant-Commander BARNES's pages of our naval casualties during the rebellion, proves that the most assiduous watchfulness, aided by the best safeguards and the most industrious dragging of harbors, are inadequate to assure a ship's safety against the subaqueous destroyer. The least dangerous torpedo of the Confederates was the fixed or framed one, which, inasmuch as its presence was readily detected, simply served to obstruct a channel. The floating explosives which came down with the current, or sluggishly wandered hither and thither with the tide, always more or less exposed to view, came next in ineffectiveness. Though the electric torpedo, as the experience and science of the Confederates became more proficient, inflicted the most fatal blows, the necessity of securing it in a permanent position made it less dangerous in general than what was distinctively termed the buoyant torpedo. This comprised the barrel, or iniquitous perversion of King Gambrinus's cask; the Singer, which, by its certainty of ignition at the slightest contact, gained great reputation with the rebels; and, in fact, whatever kind of explosive was, though submerged, permitted to float about at the sport of current or tide. These torpedoes, partaking of the nature of Paddy's flea, could never be entirely removed from a harbor, since a depth which had been thoroughly dragged and found to be innocent of such dangerous tenants might within half an hour swarm with them. The terrible disaster in Mobile bay, where six vessels, two of them heavy iron-clads, went down before these hidden foes in waters that had been most carefully tried by all the expedients known to our Navy, was a costly demonstration of this fact. And, what with the number of these insidious, unknown foes (in many localities, after the contest, they were picked up by the hundred), and the sagacious practice which set them a-field, it is a wonder indeed that our losses were not multiplied ten-fold. The artillerist BEAUREGARD is reported to have said of the Charleston defences that he "placed more reliance upon one torpedo than upon five ten-inch columbiads."

OVER eighty vessels of the Navy, iron-clad and wooden, have been placed in the hands of the mechanics, and are being finished with a rapidity that betokens strict attention to the work in hand, and still with a due regard to economy. When the late administration went out of office, it had laid up every ship that had come here, without any order for repairs. This may have been owing to the small appropriation available, but more probably it was because they wanted to show an unexpended balance which would go into the treasury and leave the present administration without means. In the last seven months of their reign they fitted out five vessels, three of which had to be ordered home for repairs—being unfit for service—and the Navy-yards were almost depleted.

JAMES L. Kiernan, a volunteer officer during the war on the staff of General Fremont, and who subsequently was commissioned as a brigadier-general of volunteers for services in the field, died recently in New York, where he was born in 1837. He received a liberal education, and graduated as a physician from the University of New York. At the beginning of the rebellion he was engaged on *The Medical Press* and also in the practice of his profession. He was severely wounded at the battle of Port Gibson, Miss., and fell into the hands of the rebels, but subsequently escaped. At the close of the war he was appointed United States Consul at Chin Kiang, China, the duties of which office he performed acceptably to the Government.

MAJOR-GENERAL Hancock has ordered in all cases where Indians are enlisted in the military service of the United States, in the Department of Dakota, the full Indian name, as well the English interpretation of the name, must be inserted in the enlistment papers.

THE ARMY.

THE arms of Troop G, Tenth U. S. Cavalry, having been inspected and condemned by the acting assistant inspector-general of the Department, the commanding officer at Leavenworth Arsenal has been ordered to transfer to the commanding officer of that troop, at Fort Dodge, Kansas, seventy Sharpe's improved carbines.

THE Secretary of War directs that—to correct any misunderstanding on the part of officers in the publications of their advertisements—the instructions from the War Department, that advertisements not to exceed six in number be inserted on consecutive days, be construed as requiring that advertisements shall be published in consecutive issues of the paper.

A DETACHMENT of one hundred and twenty-three recruits left cavalry depot Carlisle Barracks, Pennsylvania, November 24th, under the command of Brevet Major H. B. Freeman, captain U. S. Army, for assignment to the Third U. S. Cavalry, en route to Fort Leavenworth, Kansas, pursuant to Paragraph 9, Special Orders No. 273, Headquarters of the Army, adjutant-general's office, Washington, D. C., November 16, 1869.

A HELENA paper announces that Major Little and Captain Byrne, with 100 men, arrived at Helena, Montana, on the 15th instant, en route to Fort Shaw. These troops are from Newport Barracks, near Cincinnati. Major Perry of the Fourteenth Infantry, with his command of 200 men, is three days behind. The Major is direct from Governor's Island, and will be stationed at Fort Ellis. He started from New York with 278 men, but fifty or sixty deserted on the way out.

FROM Headquarters Camp McDowell, A. T., we learn that the Dima and Maricopa Indian scouts, numbering 281, left that post on the evening of October 18th, and it was believed that it was their intention to scout the country north of Camp Reno, and along the east bank of the Verde river. These two tribes of Indians are friendly and becoming very useful. They live about 80 miles in the reservations, and go out in scouts after the Apaches quite often.

BREVET Colonel Jones, U. S. A., superintendent of Indian Affairs for Idaho, reports to the Indian Bureau that the Nez Perces assembled in Council at their reservation on the 18th instant, when the chiefs of the whole tribe were present, the non-treaty party then outnumbering the treaty party. The non-treaty party were persistently refused all the advantages of the treaty of 1863, such as accepting presents or availing themselves of the advantages of the shop and mill of the reservation, or having their farms fenced. The sessions of the council were continued from day to day, the advantages they would derive from accepting the offers of the Government being pointed out to this non-treaty party. Much of their opposition is directed against "Lawyer," their head chief, whom they accuse of having sold the country for a trifle. The effect of the sessions was satisfactory, resulting in their consenting to accept the gifts of the Government and the advantages which the reservation offers. Their chief complaint against the treaty is the smallness of the tract designated as the country for their acceptance, which the superintendent thinks is well founded. Many of them have large herds of stock which require large tracts of country for their subsistence. Indian affairs throughout the Idaho superintendency are reported tranquil.

THE order directing First Lieutenant George H. Burton, regimental adjutant Twenty-first Infantry, to relieve Brevet Colonel C. W. Foster, assistant quartermaster U. S. Army, at Drum Barracks, California, and directing Colonel Foster to proceed to Tucson, A. T., and relieve Captain Gilbert C. Smith, assistant quartermaster U. S. Army, was revoked, November 10th, and Brevet Captain George W. Evans, first lieutenant Twenty-first Infantry, assigned to duty as acting assistant quartermaster and acting commissary of subsistence at the depot of Drum Barracks. Brevet Colonel Foster will proceed to Fort Whipple, A. T., and relieve Captain E. D. Baker, assistant quartermaster U. S. Army, who will report by letter to the chief quartermaster of the Department of California.

By orders from Headquarters Department of California, dated November 8th, Major C. J. Sprague, paymaster U. S. Army, will proceed, without delay, to pay the troops in the harbor of San Francisco, Benicia Arsenal and Camp Independence, California; Major T. H. Halsey, the troops in Nevada and Northern California; Major James H. Nelson, the troops in Southern California, Southern and Northern Arizona; Major C. W. Wingard, the troops at Camp Gaston and vicinity, Camp Wright and Camp Klamath, Oregon.

ABSTRACT OF SPECIAL ORDERS

(Issued from the Adjutant-General's Office for the week ending November 29, 1869).

Tuesday, November 28th.

LEAVE of absence for twenty days, with permission to apply for an extension of three months, is hereby granted Brevet Lieutenant-Colonel T. W. Custer, first lieutenant, Seventh U. S. Cavalry.

The leave of absence granted First Lieutenant Joseph Karge, Eighth U. S. Cavalry, in Special Orders No. 177, October 28, 1869, from Headquarters Military Division of the Pacific, is hereby extended thirty days.

Brevet Major Robert P. Hughes, captain, unattached, having been appointed aide-de-camp on the staff of Brevet Major-General Terry, commanding Department of the South, will report in person accordingly.

By direction of the President, Brevet Lieutenant-Colonel C. H. Carlton, captain, unattached, is hereby relieved from duty as Professor of Military Science and Tactics at the Miami University, Oxford, Ohio, and will report in person without delay to the commanding general Department of the Plate.

By direction of the Secretary of War, Brevet Captain J. S. Hassler, first lieutenant, unattached, is hereby relieved from duty as Indian Agent, and will report in person without delay to the commanding general Department of the Plate.

The extension of leave of absence granted Captain Robert B. Wade, unattached, in Special Orders No. 253, October 22, 1869, from this office, is hereby further extended ten days.

Leave of absence for fifty days is hereby granted Assistant Surgeon W. F. Buchanan.

Wednesday, November 24th.

Leave of absence for twenty days, with permission to apply for an extension of sixty days, is hereby granted Second Lieutenant James H. Whitten, Fifth U. S. Infantry.

Captain C. M. Bailey, unattached, is hereby detailed on recruiting service and will report in person without delay to Brevet Brigadier-General Burbank, Cincinnati, Ohio, for assignment to duty.

The extension of leave of absence granted Surgeon C. C. Byrne, brevet lieutenant-colonel, in Special Orders No. 32, September 20, 1869, from Headquarters Military Division of the South, is hereby further extended ten days.

The leave of absence granted Brevet Colonel James S. Brisbin, major Second U. S. Cavalry, in Special Orders No. 213, October 30, 1869, from Headquarters Department of the Plate, is hereby extended ten days.

Thursday, November 25th.

By direction of the President, Brevet Brigadier-General R. E. Clary, colonel U. S. Army (retired), will repair to this city for consultation with Hon. T. Lyle Dickey, Assistant Attorney-General of the United States.

Friday, November 26th.

By direction of the President, First Lieutenant Thomas H. Logan (brevet major), temporarily attached to the Fifth Infantry, is hereby assigned to that regiment.

As soon as the recruits ordered by Paragraph 4, Special Orders No. 266, November 8, 1869, from this office, to be sent to the Third and Fifteenth U. S. Infantry, have been forwarded, the superintendent General Recruiting Service, St. Louis, Missouri, will assign twenty-five recruits from those which are or may from time to time become disposable at Fort Leavenworth, Kansas, to Company E, Engineer Battalion, U. S. Army, subject to the orders of the department commander relative to their movement. The recruits will be selected by such an officer of the Corps of Engineers stationed at Jefferson Barracks, Missouri, as the department commander may designate.

The leave of absence granted Second Lieutenant H. M. Kendall, Sixth U. S. Cavalry, in Special Orders No. 262, November 8, 1869, from Headquarters Fifth Military District, is hereby extended sixty days.

Brevet Captain George Atcheson, first lieutenant, unattached, is hereby detailed to execute the duties of Indian Agent, under and by authority of the act of Congress, organizing the Indian Department, approved July 30, 1834. He will report by letter without delay to Hon. E. S. Parker, Commissioner of Indian Affairs, Washington, D. C., for assignment to duty and for instructions.

Saturday, November 27th.

The permission to delay reporting to the commanding general Military Division of the Pacific granted Brevet Lieutenant-Colonel J. G. C. Lee, assistant quartermaster, by telegraphic orders of October 29, 1869, from this office, confirmed by Special Orders, No. 261, November 1, 1869, from this office, is hereby further extended five days.

Upon the recommendation of the quartermaster-general, Brevet Colonel H. M. Enos, assistant quartermaster, will report to the commanding general Military Division of the Atlantic for assignment to duty at Boston, Massachusetts.

Brevet Captain Charles W. Keyes, second lieutenant, unattached, is hereby assigned to duty in the Bureau of Refugees, Freedmen and Abandoned Lands, and will report to the commissioner of the bureau for orders.

Permission to delay reporting to the commanding general, Department of Dakota, for assignment to duty, as directed in Special Orders, No. 277, November 22, 1869, from this office, is hereby granted Second Lieutenant John S. Bishop, Thirteenth U. S. Infantry, for fifteen days.

Monday, November 29th.

The Superintendent General Recruiting Service, New York city, will prepare a detachment of one hundred recruits from those that are or may from time to time become disposable at Fort Columbus, New York Harbor, and forward it, under proper charge, to Grenada, Mississippi, where it will be reported, upon arrival, to the commanding general Fourth Military District, for assignment to the Sixteenth U. S. Infantry.

By direction of the President, First Lieutenant Wil-

liam D. O'Toole, unattached, is, at his own request, hereby relieved from duty as professor of military science at the Missouri State University, Columbia, Missouri, and will proceed to his home to await orders. This order to take effect upon the arrival of his successor.

Captain Robert B. Wade, unattached, is hereby relieved from duty in the First Military District, and, by direction of the President, and in accordance with section 26 of the act of Congress, approved July 28, 1866, is detailed as professor of military science at the Missouri State University, Columbia, Missouri.

ARMY PERSONAL.

LEAVE of absence for twenty days was granted Brevet Major J. Morris Brown, assistant surgeon U. S. Army, November 26th.

THE leave of absence for fifteen days granted Brevet Major J. W. MacMurray, first lieutenant First U. S. Artillery, is extended five days.

LEAVE of absence for twenty days has been granted Brevet Major-General Richard Arnold, captain Fifth U. S. Artillery, to take effect after December 1st.

LEAVE of absence for twenty days, with permission to leave the limits of the District, was granted First Lieutenant Henry Sweeney, U. S. Army, November 19th.

LEAVE of absence for twenty days (to take effect December 15, 1869), was granted Brevet Lieutenant-Colonel D. L. Magruder, surgeon U. S. Army, November 23d.

LEAVE of absence for twenty days was granted Captain Edmond Butler, Fifth U. S. Infantry, November 20th, to take effect when his services can be spared from his post.

MAJOR C. M. Terrell, paymaster U. S. Army, was ordered, November 11th, to proceed from Fort Concho, Texas, to Forts Griffin and Richardson, Texas, and pay the troops to include October 31, 1869.

LEAVE of absence for twenty days was granted First Lieutenant John S. Allanson, Twentieth Infantry, November 23d, to take effect at such time as the commanding officer of his post can spare his services.

ACTING Assistant Surgeon Arthur E. Spohn, U. S. Army, has been relieved from duty at Fort Brown, Texas, and will proceed without delay to Lampasas, Texas, and report to the commanding officer of that post for duty.

ACTING Assistant Surgeon J. T. Pindell was ordered, November 12th, to report to the commanding officer of Fort Whipple, A. T., for field duty, and Acting Assistant Surgeon J. P. Webb, now on temporary duty, is assigned to duty at that post.

SECOND Lieutenant H. Walworth Smith, Seventh U. S. Cavalry, was ordered, November 23d, from Fort Wallace, Kansas, to Fort Leavenworth, Kansas, reporting for duty upon his arrival at the latter post to the commanding officer, Seventh U. S. Cavalry.

To enable him to avail himself of a leave of absence granted him, Brevet Lieutenant-Colonel Charles B. Gaskill, captain Twenty-fifth Infantry, is relieved as a member of general Court-martial, and Captain Frank M. Cox, Twenty-fifth Infantry, detailed in his place.

QUARTERMASTER-GEN. Meigs, who for some days has been suffering from a severe attack of erysipelas at the Planters' House, St. Louis, our readers will be pleased to learn, is fast recovering. Surgeon Mills, Medical Department of the Missouri, is his attending physician.

BREVET Brigadier-General John R. Brooke, lieutenant-colonel Third U. S. Infantry, commanding post of Fort Dodge, Kansas, was ordered, November 20th, to report at the Headquarters Department of the Missouri, without delay, on business connected with his command.

FIRST Lieutenant William M. Wallace, U. S. Army, acting signal officer, was ordered, November 22d, to proceed to Fort Johnson, North Carolina, and report to the commanding officer of the post for the purpose of instituting in that command, instructions in the use of military signals.

LIEUTENANT-COLONEL George W. Wallace, Twelfth Infantry, assistant inspector-general, Department of California, is ordered to make an inspection of the posts in California and Arizona which he may visit while on duty as a member of the general Court-martial to which he has been ordered.

BREVET Major-General Cuvier Grover, lieutenant-colonel, U. S. Army, acting assistant inspector-general of the Fifth Military District, was ordered, November 17th, to proceed to Forts Concho, Davis and Bliss, Texas, and such military posts in the District, on the route from Austin to Fort Bliss, as he may deem necessary, under special instructions from headquarters.

ACTING Assistant Surgeon Orsamus Smith, U. S. A., was ordered, November 11th, from Jackson Barracks to Shreveport, La., to relieve from duty with Company F, Sixth Cavalry, Assistant Surgeon P. F. Harvey, U. S. Army, who is ordered to Ship Island, Miss., relieving Acting Assistant Surgeon J. T. Payne, U. S. Army, who is ordered to Forts Jackson and St. Philip, La.

BREVET Major B. B. Keeler, captain U. S. Army, judge-advocate, was ordered, November 12th, from New Orleans to Louisville, Ky., for the purpose of taking depositions of witnesses in the case of the United States vs. Captain and Brevet Major Thomas Cummings, Nineteenth Infantry. Captain Luke O'Reilly, U. S. A., aide-de-camp, is ordered to Louisville to represent the accused in the case.

THE following officers were registered at Headquarters, Department of the East, for the week ending November 30, 1869: Brevet Major C. H. Vail, U. S. Army; Brevet Captain A. C. Bayne, Sixth Infantry; Brevet Brigadier-General Sidney Burbank, colonel U. S. Army; Captain E. R. Ames, U. S. Army; First Lieutenant L. A. Chamberlin, First Artillery; First Lieutenant

Joseph Karge, Eighth Cavalry; Brevet Captain Wm. J. Cain, Third Cavalry.

THE following officers were registered at Headquarters Department of Louisiana, for the week ending November 19, 1869: Second Lieutenant George K. Spencer, Nineteenth Infantry; Brevet Major Thomas Cummings, captain Nineteenth Infantry; First Lieutenant S. M. Mills, Nineteenth Infantry; Brevet Colonel W. R. Shafter, lieutenant-colonel Twenty-fourth Infantry; Brevet Major Daniel Hart, first lieutenant Twenty-fifth Infantry; Second Lieutenant George F. Cook, Nineteenth Infantry; First Lieutenant C. J. Powers, Fourth Cavalry.

COURTS-MARTIAL.

A GENERAL Court-martial was appointed to meet at Camp Bidwell, California, on the 15th day of November. Detail: Captain Thomas McGregor, First Cavalry; Captain J. E. Putnam, Twelfth Infantry; First Lieutenant J. H. May, Twelfth Infantry; First Lieutenant H. L. Street, First Cavalry; Second Lieutenant George S. Wilson, Twelfth Infantry; Second Lieutenant Thomas Garvey, First Cavalry. Assistant Surgeon D. G. Caldwell, U. S. Army, was appointed judge-advocate.

A GENERAL Court-martial was appointed to meet at Fort Larned, Kansas, on the 29th day of November. Detail: Brevet Major Daingerfield Parker, captain Third U. S. Infantry; Captain James A. Snyder, Third U. S. Infantry; Brevet Captain Wm. Mitchell, first lieutenant Third U. S. Infantry; Second Lieutenant Wm. Gerlach, Third U. S. Infantry; Second Lieutenant Charles E. Campbell, Third U. S. Infantry. Brevet Lieutenant-Colonel Alfred A. Woodhull, assistant surgeon U. S. Army, judge-advocate.

A GENERAL Court-martial was appointed to meet at Fort Snelling, Minnesota, November 23d. Detail for the court: Brevet Major-General George Sykes, colonel Twentieth Infantry; Surgeon A. Heger, major and brevet lieutenant-colonel U. S. Army; Captain William Fletcher, Twentieth Infantry; First Lieutenant Thomas Latchford, regimental quartermaster Twentieth Infantry; Brevet Captain Louis M. Morris, first lieutenant Twentieth Infantry; Second Lieutenant H. Cushman, Twentieth Infantry. Brevet Captain S. E. Carncross, first lieutenant Twentieth Infantry, judge-advocate.

A GENERAL Court-martial is constituted to assemble at Camp Verde, A. T., on the 20th day of January, 1870. Detail: Lieutenant-Colonel George W. Wallace, Twelfth Infantry; Major Jas. H. Nelson, paymaster U. S. Army; Captain William H. Brown, Twenty-first Infantry, brevet lieutenant-colonel U. S. Army; First Lieutenant Wm. McK. Owen, Twenty-first Infantry; First Lieutenant E. B. Hubbard, U. S. Army; Second Lieutenant James Bassell, Second Artillery. Brevet Lieutenant-Colonel E. W. Stone, first lieutenant U. S. Army, is detailed as judge-advocate.

A GENERAL Court-martial was ordered to meet at Fort Yuma, California, on the 26th day of November. Detail: Lieutenant-Colonel G. W. Wallace, Twelfth Infantry; Major James H. Nelson, paymaster U. S. Army; Captain George B. Sanford, First Cavalry, brevet lieutenant-colonel U. S. Army; Captain R. L. Burnett, Twenty-first Infantry, brevet major U. S. Army; Captain Murray Davis, Eighth Cavalry, brevet major U. S. Army; Captain J. M. Williams, Eighth Cavalry, brevet major U. S. Army; First Lieutenant Duncan Sherman, First Cavalry; Second Lieutenant James Bassell, Second Artillery; Second Lieutenant P. Hunter, Eighth Cavalry; Second Lieutenant E. Luff, Eighth Cavalry; Second Lieutenant D. A. Kane, First Cavalry. Brevet Lieutenant-Colonel E. W. Stone, first lieutenant U. S. Army, is detailed as judge-advocate.

A GENERAL Court-martial was appointed to meet at Fort McHenry, Md., December 3d, for the trial of Brevet Captain James B. Hazelton, first lieutenant Fourth U. S. Artillery, and such other persons as may be brought before it by authority from Headquarters Department of the East. Detail for the court: Brevet Brig.-Gen. H. D. Wallen, lieutenant-colonel, unattached; Brevet Col. Jas. Simons, surgeon U. S. Army; Major Joseph Stewart, Fourth U. S. Artillery; Brevet Colonel Richard Loder, captain Fourth U. S. Artillery; Brevet Lieutenant Colonel Francis Beach, captain Fourth U. S. Artillery; Brevet Major C. B. Throkmorton, captain Fourth U. S. Artillery; Brevet Major George B. Rodney, captain Fourth U. S. Artillery; Brevet Captain Charles N. Warner, first lieutenant Fourth U. S. Artillery; First Lieutenant Paul Romer, Fifth U. S. Artillery. First Lieutenant L. A. Chamberlin, First U. S. Artillery, is appointed judge-advocate.

A GENERAL Court-martial is constituted to meet at Camp Bowie, A. T., on the 17th day of December, 1869. Detail: Lieutenant-Colonel George W. Wallace, Twelfth Infantry; Major James H. Nelson, paymaster U. S. Army; Captain Thomas S. Dunn, Twenty-first Infantry, brevet lieutenant-colonel U. S. Army; Captain R. F. Bernard, First Cavalry, brevet colonel U. S. Army; First Lieutenant W. H. Winters, First Cavalry; Second Lieutenant James Bassell, Second Artillery; Second Lieutenant J. Q. Adams, First Cavalry, brevet captain U. S. Army; Second Lieutenant James Riley, Twenty-first Infantry. Brevet Lieutenant-Colonel E. W. Stone, first lieutenant U. S. Army, is detailed as judge-advocate.

A GENERAL Court-martial is constituted to meet at Camp Goodwin, A. T., on the 22d day of December, 1869: Detail: Lieutenant-Colonel G. W. Wallace, Twelfth Infantry; Major James H. Nelson, paymaster U. S. Army; Major D. R. Cledenin, Eighth Cavalry; Captain H. R. Putnam, Twenty-first Infantry, brevet major U. S. Army; Captain H. E. Smith, Twenty-first Infantry, brevet major U. S. Army; Captain John Barry, First Cavalry; First Lieutenant R. Pollock, Twenty-first Infantry; First Lieutenant B. H. Rogers, Twenty-first Infantry; Second Lieutenant F. K. Upham, First Cavalry; Second Lieutenant James Bassell, Second Artillery; Second Lieutenant W. L. Sherwood, Twenty-first Infantry. Brevet Lieutenant-Colonel E. W. Stone, first lieutenant U. S. Army, is detailed as judge-advocate.

A GENERAL Court-martial is constituted to assemble at Camp Toll-Gate, A. T., on the 22d day of January, 1870: Detail: Lieutenant-Colonel George W. Wallace, Twelfth Infantry; Major A. J. Alexander, Eighth Cavalry, brevet brigadier-general U. S. Army; Major James H. Nelson, paymaster U. S. Army; Captain S. B. M. Young, Eighth Cavalry, brevet colonel U. S. Army; Captain A. B. Kauffman, Eighth Cavalry; First Lieutenant M. M. Wheeler, Eighth Cavalry; First Lieutenant Robert Carrick, Eighth Cavalry; Second Lieutenant James Bassell, Second Artillery; Second Lieutenant W. L. Ledgerwood, Eighth Cavalry; Second Lieutenant J. W. Pullman, Eighth Cavalry. Brevet Lieutenant-Colonel E. W. Stone, first lieutenant U. S. Army, is detailed as judge-advocate.

A GENERAL Court-martial is constituted to assemble at Camp McDowell, A. T., on the 7th day of January, 1870: Detail: Lieutenant-Colonel George W. Wallace, Twelfth Infantry; Major M. Cogswell, Twenty-first Infantry, brevet colonel U. S. Army; Major James H. Nelson, paymaster U. S. Army; Captain George B. Sanford, First Cavalry, brevet lieutenant-colonel U. S. Army; Captain R. L. Burnett, Twenty-first Infantry, brevet major U. S. Army; Captain Murray Davis, Eighth Cavalry, brevet major U. S. Army; Captain J. M. Williams, Eighth Cavalry, brevet major U. S. Army; First Lieutenant Duncan Sherman, First Cavalry; Second Lieutenant James Bassell, Second Artillery; Second Lieutenant P. Hunter, Eighth Cavalry; Second Lieutenant E. Luff, Eighth Cavalry; Second Lieutenant D. A. Kane, First Cavalry. Brevet Lieutenant-Colonel E. W. Stone, first lieutenant U. S. Army, is detailed as judge-advocate.

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ARMY GAZETTE.

HEADQUARTERS OF THE ARMY,
ADJUTANT-GENERAL'S OFFICE,
WASHINGTON, November 17, 1869.

General Orders No. 78.

By direction of the Secretary of War, the United States arsenal at Baton Rouge, La., will be discontinued.

All the movable ordnance property will be transferred to such points as the chief of ordnance may designate. After the buildings shall have been vacated by the Ordnance Department they will be transferred to the custody of the Quartermaster's Department for the use of the troops.

By command of General Sherman.

E. D. TOWNSEND, Adjutant-General.

CHANGES OF STATIONS.

THE following is a list of the changes of stations of troops reported at the War Department since last report:

Company A, Second Cavalry, from Ogallala, Neb., to Omaha Barracks, Neb., November 15th. Ordered.

Company I, Second Cavalry, from duty in the field, to Omaha Barracks, Neb., November 9th. Ordered.

Company D, Seventh Cavalry, from Camp near Fort Hays, Ks., to Fort Hays, Ks., October 12th. Joined post.

Company E, Eighteenth Cavalry, from Union Point, Ga., to Atlanta, Ga., November 16th. Ordered.

Three companies of the Eighteenth Infantry, now at Atlanta, Ga., ordered to Corinth, Miss., for duty in Fourth District.

Companies C, E and H, Second Infantry, from Montgomery, Ala., to Jackson, Miss., November 10th. Ordered to report by letter to commanding general Fourth Military District for duty.

Two companies Second Infantry, from Hantaville, Ala., to Corinth, Miss., November 10th. Ordered to report by letter to commanding general Fourth Military District for duty.

Company B, Fourth Infantry, from Fort Sanders, W. T., to Fort D. A. Russell, W. T., November 22d.

Company K, Sixteenth Infantry, from Corinth, Miss., to Grenada, Miss., November 11th. Ordered.

Companies F and G, Nineteenth Infantry, from Baton Rouge, La., to Fourth Military District, November 16th. Left for temporary duty during election.

Company A, Twenty-fourth Infantry, consolidated October 26th, and is stationed at Fort Bliss, Texas.

No changes reported in stations of companies of Cavalry or Artillery.

REPORT OF GENERAL HAZEN.

BREVET Major-General W. B. Hazen, U. S. A., has forwarded a report to the General commanding the Army, dated "Headquarters Southern Indian District, Camp Witchita, I. T., June 30, 1869." This report gives a full account of the operations of General Hazen, while in control of such Indians south of Kansas and east of New Mexico, as were not actually under the charge of the Interior Department, nor claimed on account of their hostile character as subject to the authority of the Commanders of the Military Department in which they chanced to be. General Hazen received his orders August 10, and September 2, 1868, and before the 10th, the earliest period that he could enter upon his duties the Cheyennes, with the Arapahoes, were at war, while all but a small band of the Kiowas and many of the Comanches were so closely in sympathy with them as to give the impression that they were hostile also. "Without military authority, while overshadowed by it, I found myself," says General Hazen, "pressed from both sides, with the single way of pursuing a straightforward course clear of both. I first visited the Kiowas, the Apaches and a small band of Comanches, "Yampasukas," numbering in all about nineteen hundred, at Fort Larned Kansas, the 21st of September. And at a council held with them, General Sheridan being present, it was arranged for them to come upon their reservation near Fort Cobb, and remain there, General Sheridan agreeing to ration them for their journey. As it would take ten days to get the rations ready, the Indians were sent to hunt buffalo for that period. Before the expiration of the ten days, the Arapahoes and Cheyennes, had broken out all along the Smoky Hill, and, fearing that their own pacific intentions might be misunderstood the Indians I had met did not return for their rations, but kept directly on to their reservation reaching it the last of October. This led many to believe that the Kiowas were at war, which was not the case, except in Texas."

Arriving at Fort Cobb, November 8th, General Hazen found there about 700 Comanches and all the Caddo, Witchitas, and affiliated bands, in all about 1,700 souls, without any agent or person to direct them, but quiet and inoffensive: ready to obey, and anxious to be assisted. Delegations from all the Indians on the plains commenced arriving about this time, including several from the Arapahoes and Cheyennes. They were all anxious for peace at Fort Cobb, but the Kiowas and Comanches claimed the right to make war in Texas, and the Cheyennes in Kansas. The Arapahoes, from the first, asked for peace unconditioned, and their conduct since has convinced him of their sincerity.

It was not contemplated that the money placed in General Hazen's hands, \$50,000, should be used for subsisting the Indians of his charge, nor was the amount sufficient for such a purpose, but it was at once evident to him that this was in fact paramount and precedatory to everything else. Therefore, at the urgent solicitation of the department commander, with his assurance of all the assistance at his command, and trusting implicitly in the good faith of Congress to make early provision for their future wants, he undertook the work, including the subsistence of the Caddos, Witchitas, and affiliated bands, and has continued to perform it until the present time, a period of eight months, receiving no assistance whatever from either source, except fifteen days' supplies and one hundred beef cattle from the Subsistence Department.

The number of the Indians had been greatly exaggerated in all previous issues, and were rated at fully double their real numbers and rations issued in equal quantities to each chief for his people, without much regard to their numbers. Issues having been made, also, at long intervals, when a week's rations were given them, based upon actual count, the chiefs were always disappointed, and, usually, angry, and gave much annoyance, which had to be endured to avoid the risk of revolt. This matter continued until the approach of General Sheridan's command, the Indians being often impudent and offensive in their demands. Had his troops not come into the country, and had not the garrison of Cobb been considerably increased, General Hazen could not have remained. One small band of Kiowas, soon after his arrival, on seeing what they were entitled to, after many angry and offensive demonstrations, actually left, and went to the Plains, and have never been in since. After great perplexity, the following was settled as the allowance to one hundred rations: 150lb. beef, 75lb. corn meal, 25lb. flour, 4lb. sugar, 2lb. coffee, and 1lb. each of soap and salt. Beef was procured at 3c. per lb. and an entire ration for 8c.

The above ration gives general satisfaction, except the article of meat, which is not liked by any of the Indians. Where it cannot be furnished for less than half the cost of flour, General Hazen recommends, on account of its less nutritious qualities, that it be replaced by that article. Sugar and coffee, in about the quantities now issued, should, he thinks, be continued; no attempt at discontinuing them could be made without jeopardizing all that has been so far accomplished. On his arrival he informed these people that his efforts were the beginning of a permanent work for their localization and enduring benefit. Every act and word has been with this idea, and they have learned to believe it. The ration to them is not merely subsistence, but a kind of subsidy given in lieu of the ample supply they can get by the chase, and the issue of sugar and coffee is one of the conditions which have been accepted. Without it they say their natural food is better for them than ours, and to withhold it now would be an attempt at bad faith on our part. During many months in the spring, summer, and autumn, but little beef is required, the buffalo affording ample meat, which they greatly prefer.

"During the period General Sheridan remained in the country," says General Hazen, "he assumed the chief direction of affairs, giving me ample opportunity for preparations for farming. The Cheyennes and Arapahoes entered into negotiations with him for peace, promising to come in soon after his arrival, and hostilities were then suspended. These promises were renewed almost daily without the arrival of more than

negotiating parties while he remained, except that in February Little Raven, of the Arapahoes, with some sixty lodges, came in. About the 1st of April one hundred lodges more came in. These all moved to Camp Supply about the last of the month, being joined on their way with all the remainder of their people, thirty lodges, except one lodge. They are now supposed to be on their reservation. Also, in April, some seventy lodges of the Cheyennes came in very timidly, but, not receiving any annuities, thirty lodges went away in daylight to the Plains. On the 23d of that month the Arapahoes, with the remaining forty lodges of Cheyennes, started for Camp Supply. The second day after, a discussion arose among the Cheyennes whether or not they would go, delaying the movement two days, when one of the young men who did not want to go, to settle the matter deliberately shot a teamster, when, as he wished, all the Cheyennes stampeded and went to the Plains. Some of them have since gone in at Camp Supply, but I have but little definite knowledge of their late movements. I do not believe they will go on the war path this season, but that they will eventually go to their reservation and remain there. They do not like their reservation, and have little confidence in our good intentions toward them, and have much to relate in support of their opinions. It will take many years of just and kind treatment to overcome this apprehension.

The reservation assigned the Kiowas and Comanches embraces one of the finest portions of the country; abundantly watered by many fresh streams and living springs, it has a large amount of the richest bottom land and a climate unsurpassed, while the wild grasses are green the entire winter. There are situated on this reserve the Caddos, Witchita and affiliated bands, a much-neglected but deserving remnant of several tribes. They are agriculturists, and can soon be made self-supporting, while they have, long since, given up war. The reservation set aside for the Cheyennes and Arapahoes is all covered with good buffalo and mosquito grass, but has little timber and very little permanent fresh water. It embraces the Salt Plains, and its large streams are salty and unfit for use. The Indians object to it, and it is somewhat doubtful if it will prove suitable for a reservation."

On the reservation, twelve hundred acres have been broken and contracts made for fencing it all, three hundred acres planted in corn, over a hundred patches from a few rods to ten acres each, planted by Indians as gardens, tended by their own hands, and as cleanly kept as the best gardens in Ohio, and a few substantial houses for chiefs have been built. Confidence in the good intentions of the Government has been fully established, and the interest of all in farming secured, while very many actually take hold with their hands. The season is proving the most auspicious possible; the gardens are certainly wonderful for Indians just beginning, and they come to the post with marketing every day, and no longer speak of going away except for hunting. Thus the past eight months has accomplished results that, with proper management, cannot fail to result in permanent good.

"By placing the Indians on prescribed reservations," says General Hazen, "we have assumed the obligation to feed him until we teach him to feed himself in a new way. He can be best fed and most cheaply, through the subsistence department of the Army. Next year his breadstuffs can be raised here, but the beef must come from Texas, costing but a few cents per pound. A little sugar and coffee should be given him, as well as a little salt and soap. The feeding of Indians here, the eight months before my arrival, was made a matter of grand speculation amounting to fraud. An investigation of the matter shows that the United States paid some six times what the service was worth, and unfortunately much of this came from what was intended for the Indians' benefit in other ways."

CENSUS OF INDIANS.

It is very difficult to arrive at an accurate estimate of the number of these people, but it is quite certain, General Hazen thinks, that there are not half as many as are supposed. Those belonging to his District number about as follows: Comanches on the reservation, 916; Comanches not on the reservation, about 1,500; Kiowas on the reservation, 986; Kiowas not on the reservation, 150; Apaches, on the reservation, 281; Caddos, 284; Witchitas and affiliated bands, 650; Arapahoes, on the reservation, 1,158; Cheyennes, not on the reservation, about 1,500. The reservation system, he declares, is all that is left for the Indian, and that is now well inaugurated. But there is no authority for chastising him if he leaves his reservation, and in consequence he goes away when he chooses, murdering and robbing. Unless this authority be given, the plan is incomplete and our progress will be slow and uncertain. With it, and a faithful administration of duty by both the military and civil agents of the Government, a few years will suffice to close up the Indian troubles.

In regard to Indian agents he says: "The action of the President in appointing Quakers as agents, and their presence already at their post of duty, has fully assured me that the work will be carried on efficiently and successfully. They have taken hold with that industry and practical ability, with their known probity, that leave no doubt of their full success wherever the Indians have been brought upon reservations. But no civil agent can be of any use until this is accomplished. The previous system has been a burlesque upon the Government, and a swindle upon the Indians."

In conclusion, General Hazen says: "A few lodges of the Apache Indians, of New Mexico, are on their way to join the Indians here, and live upon the reservation. They say the troops have been so active there the past year, they don't care to live in New Mexico any longer. I have sent them word to come in. There is yet quite a strip of unappropriated country between the two reservations, with much good land, sufficient for all the tribes in Kansas; and I would recommend that they eventually be brought down to this country. The semi-civilized Indians now hold more than ten times the amount of good lands they can ever cultivate or use in

any way. It is time the subject of restricting their domain be wisely considered, before it become involved in unprincipled schemes for personal enrichment. A large portion of these people are ready for citizenship, and it is only from selfish reasons that they object. Many of the leading people have no trace of Indian blood; have blue eyes and light hair, are fairly educated, and only call themselves Indians for the privilege it affords.

"My duties have been the most arduous and vexatious possible; but I have given the matter my closest attention and study from the first, having been but once absent from the country a few days on business. I had, for a few weeks, the assistance of two companies of troops; but, since that time, have had only a guard of ten men, with the express restriction that they should do no manner of work. Various services, such as an indigent emigrant, when travelling through the country, reasonably expects at a frontier post, have been steadily refused me. The accompanying papers, marked "D," show the character of those refusals. The service requested was for building a road, indispensable to myself, and almost equally necessary for troops. Its refusal caused quite an outlay of the meagre funds at my disposal. My work has been single-handed from the first, except the efficient aid rendered by my disbursing officer, Captain Charles G. Penny, U. S. Army; the agent Boone, the good will of the country, and the confidence of the Indians."

THE NAVY.

The Editor would be pleased to receive for this Department of the JOURNAL all facts of interest to the Navy, especially such as relate to the movements of officers or vessels.

VARIOUS NAVAL MATTERS.

THE Secretary of the Navy, on the 30th ult., appointed Captain Reynolds, Commanders Breese and Shirk, a board to examine into the system of pensions, and report what changes, if any, are necessary.

LEAVE of absence for twenty days, with permission to apply at Headquarters Military Division of the Missouri, for an extension of thirty days, was granted First Lieut. J. M. Johnson, Seventh United States Cavalry, No. 27.

SURGEON Albert L. Gihon, U. S. Navy, of the *Idaho*, has received, through the British Minister at Washington, the thanks of the British Government, for friendly and valuable services rendered to several of her Majesty's ships-of-war at Nagasaki, Japan.

THE *Saugus* and *Dictator*, two of our most powerful monitors, are at Key West, under the command of Admiral Poor, of the West Indian Squadron. The *Minantonoh* and the *Terror*, double-turret monitors, are in commission and ready to join them at a moment's notice. To this squadron have, also, been added the *Nantasket*, *Seminole*, *Poughatian*, *Severn*, *Albany*, *Seataara*, *Tuscarora*, *Yantic*, and the tugs *Speedwell* and *Triana*.

COMMANDER Gibson, U. S. N., has submitted to the Superintendent of the Naval Observatory a report on the meteoric shower as seen by him from the Navy-yard at Pensacola, Fla., on the 13th instant. He says the meteors fell at a rate varying from two or three to twenty or thirty or more per minute, and were never uniform for equal spaces of time—the star-showers flashing and intermitting, like the bursts and pauses of a gusty rain. We shall give the report in full another week.

A PRIVATE letter from an officer connected with the U. S. steamer *Standish* describes the monitor *Dictator* as a most magnificent sight in a heavy sea, and in a gale of wind. In her behavior as a sea boat she cannot be excelled, and her speed is such that she had no trouble at all in running away from both of the vessels accompanying her in the recent trip to the mouth of the Savannah river. The race generally stood as follows: *Dictator*, No. 1; *Standish*, No. 2, well up, and *Triana*, a bad 3.

The rebel ram *Atlanta*, which was bought from the Government last May for the Government of Hayti, has, since then, undergone alterations at the ship-yard of Neafie & Levy, Philadelphia. On the 8th inst., when on the point of sailing, she was seized on suspicion of being designed for the Cuban insurgent service, but was finally released. She is announced to leave Philadelphia on the 30th, and is fully armed and equipped, carrying 75 men, two, 150 and two 100-pound rifle guns upon pivots, a large quantity of ammunition, and an abundance of provisions.

A DISPATCH from San Francisco, dated November 29, 1869, announces that Paymaster W. G. Marcy, of the Mare Island Navy-yard, is a defaulter in the sum of \$140,000, according to estimate. He has turned his property over to the Government, but it will by no means cover the amount of the defalcation. The newspapers of San Francisco are calling attention to the condition of the United States Marine Hospital building, which has been deserted since the heavy earthquake of October, 1868. It is said that an appropriation by Congress of \$15,000 will be sufficient to place the building in a better condition than before the earthquake. This property, if sold, would realize about half a million of dollars.

THE United States steamship *Franklin*, Captain Rodgers, flagship of the European squadron, Admiral Radford commanding, and United States steamship *Juniata*, Captain Mullany, were at Marseilles on the 7th of November. The squadron is at present in or near the following places: The *Plymouth* (formerly the *Kenosha*), Captain Macomb, at Palermo, Italy; the *Richmond* at Malaga. The *Franklin* will probably visit Nice and go from thence to Spezia. There have been few changes among the officers. Lieutenant-Commander Brown, of the *Franklin*, has resigned. The *Franklin* took in 500 tons of coal at Gibraltar last April. Since then, almost seven months, she has only consumed, for all purposes, 200 tons, or a fraction over twenty-eight tons per month. The *Juniata* made the trip from New York to Lisbon under canvas; did not get up steam during the passage.

THE iron-clad *Roanoke*, at the Brooklyn Navy-yard, is being thoroughly overhauled, and her machinery put in order, so as to be ready for service at very short notice. About 250 men could be drafted from the *Vermont* to the *Roanoke* in case of necessity. The *Roanoke* carries two fifteen-inch, two eleven-inch and two rifled guns. One turret is out of order, the floor beneath it having sunk. The fever ship *Saratoga* is being unloaded, and the stores inspected. The *Guard* is to be refitted. About forty recruits arrive every day from the different recruiting stations. The iron-clad *Miantonomoh* arrived, on the 29th, off the Battery, New York. Large numbers of mechanics and laborers are being discharged, but the number of men employed during the winter will be far from small, as the *Shawmut* is being rebuilt, and heavy repairs will be finished on other vessels. The *Guerriere* was undocked Wednesday and will be fitted out rapidly. She will be assigned to duty as the flagship of the South Atlantic squadron. The paddle-wheel frigate *Susquehanna* is to be converted into a screw steamer, and her engines will be replaced by others constructed under Isherwood's administration, and which have been removed from some of the ships which have been altered.

NAVY GAZETTE.

REGULAR NAVAL SERVICE.

ORDERED.

NOVEMBER 24.—Ensign George S. Davol, to the *Nipsic*.

NOVEMBER 25.—Commander Homer C. Blake, to command the *Alaska* on the 1st of December.

Lieutenant-Commander Colby M. Chester, Lieutenant A. S. Snow, Ensigns R. M. G. Brown, Chas. W. Chipp and Charles T. Forse, Paymaster Frank Clarke, Assistant Surgeon S. W. Latta, and Second Assistant Engineer F. L. Cooper, to the *Alaska* on the 1st of December.

Lieutenant-Commander A. S. Barker, Ensigns H. D. Tremain, R. C. Derby and Frederick Singer, Paymaster Horace P. Tuttle, Assistant Surgeon J. M. Scott, First Assistant Engineer John Hoop, and Second Assistant Engineers J. P. Kelley, Edward Gay, George M. Greene and John L. Hannum, to the *Terror* on the 1st of December.

Master Richard M. Cutts, to duty at the Hydrographic Office, Washington, D. C.

Ensign Jefferson F. Moser, to the *Nipsic*.

NOVEMBER 26.—Commodore John L. Worden, to duty as Superintendent of the Naval Academy on the 1st of December.

Lieutenant Wallace Graham, to the Navy-yard, New York, on the 1st of January next.

Surgeon E. R. Dodge, to the receiving ship *New Hampshire*.

NOVEMBER 27.—Ensign John B. Robinson, to duty at the Navy-yard, Philadelphia, on the 1st of January next.

Second Assistant Engineer J. J. Barry, to duty at the Navy-yard, New York.

Second Assistant Engineer H. Schuyler Ross, to the *Terror*.

NOVEMBER 28.—Second Assistant Engineer Chas. R. Roecker, to duty in the Bureau of Steam Engineering.

Second Assistant Engineer J. H. Harmony, to duty at the Naval Station, Mound City, Ill., by the 4th of January next.

NOVEMBER 30.—Captain George H. Cooper, to hold himself in readiness for the command of the *Colorado*.

Captain E. T. Nichols, to hold himself in readiness for duty as chief of staff of the Asiatic Fleet.

Lieutenant G. M. Hunter, to command the *Triana*.

Master F. A. Miller, to the receiving ship *Vermont*.

Paymaster Geo. F. Cutts, to duty as inspector of provisions at the Navy-yard, Boston, on the 1st of January next.

Second Assistant Engineer Truman W. Jones, to the *Triana*.

DETACHED.

NOVEMBER 25.—Lieutenant-Commander J. H. Rowland, from the receiving ship *Potomac*; Ensign A. V. Wadham, from the Navy-yard, New York; Surgeon J. H. Clark, from the receiving ship *Vandalia*, and First Assistant Engineer W. H. King, from the Navy-yard, Washington, and ordered to the *Alaska* on the 1st of December.

Lieutenant-Commander S. W. Nichols, from the Navy-yard, Boston; Lieutenant W. H. Elliott, from the Naval Station, Mound City, Ill.; Master R. M. Lisle, from the Navy-yard, Philadelphia; Surgeon W. K. Scofield, from the receiving ship *New Hampshire*; Chief Engineer Mortimer Kellogg, from the Naval Station, Mound City, Ill., and Second Assistant Engineer Joseph H. Thomas, from duty at League Island, Pa., and ordered to the *Terror* on the 1st of December.

NOVEMBER 26.—Second Assistant Engineer A. H. Price, from the Navy-yard, Norfolk, and granted sick leave.

NOVEMBER 30.—Paymaster J. Geo. Harris, from duty as inspector of provisions, etc., at the Navy-yard, Boston, on the 1st of January next, and ordered to settle his accounts.

Ensign Alfred Craven, from the *Saginaw*, on the 1st of January next, and ordered to duty under Rear-Admiral Craven, port admiral at San Francisco.

Ensign A. G. Paul, from the *Onward*, and home.

First Assistant Engineer A. H. Fisher, from the *Saginaw*, and granted permission to return east.

RESIGNATION ACCEPTED.

NOVEMBER 26.—Second Assistant Engineer Henry M. Quig.

APPOINTED.

NOVEMBER 29.—Rev. John K. Lewis, of Syracuse, N. Y., a chaplain in the Navy.

MISCELLANEOUS.

NOVEMBER 25.—The orders of Commander G. M. Ransom, to command the *Terror* are modified, so that he will report on the 1st of December.

LIST OF DEATHS

In the Navy of the United States, which have been reported to the Chief of the Bureau of Medicine and Surgery for the week ending November 27, 1869:

Robert Johnston, corporal marines, September 29th, U. S. steamer *Portsmouth*, at sea.

Benjamin Everson, landsman, October 2d, U. S. steamer *Portsmouth*, at sea.

Edward Cantwell, coxswain, October 4th, U. S. steamer *Portsmouth*, at sea.

THE U. S. STEAMSHIP IDAHO IN A TYPHOON.

REAR-ADMIRAL ROWAN, commanding the Asiatic Squadron, writes to the Navy Department from Yokohama, October 2d, giving an account of the crippling of the U. S. steamer *Idaho* in a typhoon on her way to Hong Kong, on the morning of the 26th of September. Admiral Rowan fears the *Idaho* is too much shattered and too rotten to be fit for sea, and she will be used as a store and hospital ship. The following is a detailed report from Commander Taylor:

U. S. STORESHIP IDAHO, At Sea, Sept. 25, 1869.

ADMIRAL: I have the honor to submit the following detailed account of the circumstances attending the typhoon of the 21st inst. During the afternoon of the 20th inst. the sky was clear and bright, and we carried studing sails until evening. Throughout the midwatch of the 21st instant the wind continued the same, the ship

making ten knots per hour. At daylight a light drizzling rain set in. During the morning watch the sea became moderately rough, and during the forenoon the ship commenced to ride uneasily. At meridian the barometer stood 29.70. At 1 p. m., topsails were reefed, and the wind freshened so rapidly that before the hands were piped down, the mainsail and mizzen topsail were furled. At 3 p. m. the fore sail was furled, as there were signs of weakness along the head. During this watch a new fore sail was bent, the forestay-stay sail and try-sail were set, and at 4 p. m. the ship was lying to on a port tack under a fore-stay-stay sail, fore-try-sail, and close-reefed main-topsail, heading S. W. by S., with a moderate gale from south-east, and a drizzling rain. The sea was quite rough, but she rode very easily. The barometer stood 29.50, but was falling rapidly, and the gale increasing, holding steadily to its direction, south-east, until 8 p. m. During the afternoon, and after 5 p. m., the gale increased to a hurricane. At 5 the main yard broke in the slings with a thundering crash, the starboard arm banging furiously to the leeward against the sail and rigging, breaking in two, one piece fouling in the back stays and rigging, the other hanging by the sail-brace. The port arm flew back, pressing against the weather rigging, which was relieved of strain by taking the jumper well forward and setting it up. Simultaneously with this disaster the maintop-sail split with succession of deafening cracks, sounding like volleys of musketry, and the lee half instantly disappeared. The lee brace was immediately let go, the topsail yard flew back, and the main try-sail was set as quickly as possible. This sail did good service for nearly an hour, when it blew to ribbons. The noise, fury, and impetuosity of the hurricane at this time were indescribable.

The prisoners were released at 6 p. m., and worked manfully. Too much praise cannot be given to the crew, some of whom toiled like giants. Boatswain Leeds, a passenger, was quite invaluable in cheering and leading on the men. He was at all times "the right man in the right place." Thomas Walker, a coxswain, also deserves special mention. He was the principal actor in securing the lee main yard-arm, and, by a reckless exposure of life, saved the rail from being crushed. The ship lay to almost motionless, keeling over considerably, the helm being hard up. The gusts of wind were now sudden and all-powerful: its fiendish howls were deafening, and the air was literally composed of spray. The sea was pressed down smooth, the tops of the waves were cut off clean by the wind, and carried by the tempest in fine spray, which blinded us and stung our faces painfully. At times the mainmast was invisible from the quarter deck. It was utterly impossible even to look over the rail, and below it we actually breathed salt water. Orders could not be made intelligible by word of mouth, the trumpet was useless, and work was accomplished by examples alone. Men became sick from the salt water which they imbibed.

The storm still came from the south-east and continued until 7:40 p. m. Between 6:30 and 7:40 p. m., the following accidents occurred: The maintop-sail yard, fore and mizzen royal masts and yards, and maintop-gallant masts and light yards went, hanging on in tangled wrecks; the foretop-sail split and disappeared in a twinkling, followed by the fragments of the fore storm try-sail, the sheet of which was steadied and strengthened by two strong tackles. The maintop-gallant mast went close to the cap with a fearful crash, coming down with the whole debris of the top hamper and starboard half of the maintop, and lodged outside the lee main rigging. The wire rigging held wonderfully. The mizzen-top-gallant yard, after hammering to leeward some time, thrust itself between the rigging and mast, and jammed the wreck of the maintop-mast, and could not be cut away. The ship now began to labor heavily, shipping great seas with every lurch. The first sea smashed the whale boat half way up the mizzen rigging, carried away the bulkheads of the cabin pantry, cabin door, wardroom skylights, and weather hammock rails, sweeping everything and everybody above decks into the lee scuppers. The ship now went nearly on her beam ends, but in a moment righted, and left the third cutter in the sea to leeward. The barometer had now fallen to 27.62. At 7:30 p. m. a sea came over the lee bow, sweeping the lee gangway clear, bringing everything aft, and swept those in the vicinity against the bulkhead, through the cabin door, and aft in a confused mass.

The fury of the tempest was now at its height, and the darkness was impenetrable, excepting when there were occasional flashes of sheet-lightning when the waves could be seen banked up, one over the other, seething and boiling high above and around the ship. The noise of the wind was like unearthly yells, and the ship quivered in every timber. Suddenly the mercury rose to 27.90, and with slight fluctuations continued to rise. With one fierce squall the wind dropped almost to a calm. A confused cross-sea was now running, while puffs and squalls came from all points of the compass. The ship was making water fast, but the men manned the pumps cheerfully, singing songs and congratulating themselves that the gale was over. She rode beautifully, going down low first, as if she would never stop trembling, and then mounting the sea with long, gliding sweep. She shipped great seas at every instant. The seams in the deck were open fore and aft, and the water poured through in torrents, damaging or destroying all the books, papers, clothing, and stores in and below the main deck, as well as all the personal effects of the officers in the ward room and steerage. She shipped another sea on both bows, starboard gangway, and both quarters at the same time. The ship trembled under this shock, and it seemed as if she would never rise again. Tarpaulins were now better secured in the rigging, the close-reefed spanker got ready, decks cleared, and everything secured. At 9:20 p. m. the wind came in redoubled violence from the north and east, striking us on our port beam. The helm was hard up. She bore up well and lay more quietly as the last half of the typhoon passed over, the wind backing to north-west, and moderating rapidly, although the sea remained very rough. At 10:30 p. m. our rising barometer

and the rapidly subsiding wind gave proof that this most terrific typhoon had left us.

I append hereto a copy of the ship's log during the gale, and a plate of the track of the typhoon.

I am, sir, very respectfully,

B. B. TAYLOR, commander, commanding.

[From the London Army and Navy Gazette.]

THE DIET OF SEAMEN.

THE judicious dieting of seamen is a matter of great importance to the country. If we want them to work cheerfully and fight well we must keep them healthy by feeding them well. Dr. A. Rattray, surgeon, R. N., in a careful report which he has made upon the subject, has to state that, notwithstanding many and great improvements, the present dietary of seamen of her Majesty's Navy is injudicious. Nature, he observes, has laid down certain great laws of feeding which it is our wisdom to follow. Our aliment should everywhere be fresh, like the supplies; in temperate latitudes it should be of mixed animal and vegetable material, chiefly animal and oily in Arctic or sub-Arctic regions, more highly vegetable and starchy in the tropics; and it should everywhere present considerable variety of detail. Our diet scales err by being too unvarying; the sanitary condition of seamen generally would be materially improved by adopting a regional system of dieting, and a summer and winter scale. The ration of rum is injurious in most, and especially in tropical climates. The too free use of salt meat should be avoided; it should be almost entirely supplanted by preserved meat. Dr. Rattray regards salt meat as an unnatural form of food, causing much sickness, debility, premature decay and death. The necessity for medicinal antidotes, or anti-scorbutics, as they are termed, to counteract the results of the slow cumulative poison of salt meat on the blood and body alone proves it to be an improper article of diet; and it is doubtful if the best of anti-scorbutics can permanently prevent the final evolution of disease from this injurious agent.

Dr. Rattray sketches a new dietary, arranged for temperate and for tropical climates, for harbor and for sea. He makes no addition to the number of articles now in use, but some are increased and others diminished, or expunged from the list. Salt meat is almost, and rum altogether, omitted. The pound of salt meat is replaced by $\frac{1}{4}$ of a pound of preserved meat, or 8oz. in the tropics, either equal in nutritive power to the former; salt meat, recently and lightly pickled, might be issued once a week for change. The rum would be replaced by coffee in temperate latitudes, and, as this is heating, by lime juice in the tropics, both of them healthful, anti-scorbutic drinks. To make the diet less unvarying and more assimilative, the harbor ration of fresh beef might be alternated with mutton, and occasionally, perhaps, pork, and succulent vegetables with potatoes. Another pleasant innovation would be the alternation of the unvarying round of flour pudding and pea-soup at sea with barley broth and rice sweetened by molasses. The occasional conversion of the potatoes and rice into soup, and roasting of the fresh beef and mutton would give further variety. When necessary, a rice day might be added to the temperate dietary, to form a useful intermediate semi-tropical scale. In tropical latitudes the fresh vegetables, potatoes, flour puddings, pea-soup, and other vegetable matters are in the proposed scale suitably increased. The frequent issue of soft bread in harbor at least, especially in the tropics, would be pleasant and salutary. A better class of cook is suggested, and cooking apparatus might be employed. At sea a half ration of chocolate issued to each man of the middle and morning watches, at their commencement, would be advantageous. Water should not be stinted for drinking or culinary purposes.

These changes in the dieting of seamen would be easy, and the proposed scale would be convenient from its easy adaptation to the varieties of climate and season. The only argument which can with any fairness be urged against it is that preserved meat is insipid and its too frequent use apt to make it distasteful. But it would be varied once or twice a week with salt meat; and it is submitted that it is doubtful if prolonged diet of preserved meat of as good a quality as that made at the royal victualling-yard at Deptford would be as unpalatable as a similar confinement to salt junk, especially if the food is otherwise sufficiently varied. Hitherto the innovation has been attended with satisfactory results in her Majesty's Navy, the preserved meat being much in request, and it is likely to be so if constant attention is given to the quality of the meat and care taken in cooking it, so as to make the preserved meat as far as possible resemble fresh provisions. Mr. Rattray gives a map indicating the lines at which change from the temperate to the tropical scale of diet, or vice versa, will generally be found advisable, an intermediate or semi-tropical scale being adopted for a time upon the verge, or in temperate climates in the summer. He believes the change of diet he describes would tend decidedly to the improvement of the health and efficiency of seamen. It has been proved, he says, by experience that sailors lose health, strength, and flesh on a diet of salt meat, especially in a warm, debilitating region, but that many will gain in flesh, or at least, lose less than they otherwise would, in a tropical climate if they have a judicious diet; and he sums up his report by saying if sickness does come, let it be from other agents than the food. The report is published by the Admiralty in their annual volume on the health of the Navy.

COMMANDER Selfridge will have charge of the Darien surveying expedition, and he now awaits orders from Rear-Admiral Davis, to whom all the papers and maps pertaining to the survey have been submitted, by the Navy Department. Admiral Davis has had the subject under consideration since his return from the South Atlantic Squadron.

CORRESPONDENCE.

Our correspondents are informed that communications intended for our columns, to receive prompt attention, should invariably be addressed to THE EDITOR of the ARMY AND NAVY JOURNAL, Box 3,201, New York.

THANKSGIVING IN CAMP.

To the Editor of the Army and Navy Journal.

SIR: Thanksgiving day, with us, has passed, and with it a delightful recollection of the festivities at that time enjoyed. Perhaps a few words descriptive of the manner in which the day was spent at a western post may prove acceptable to your readers. By way of preface, let me say that there is a commendable spirit of rivalry existing here between the half of the garrison located on one face of the parade and the half on the other. But a few nights since one of these bodies gave a very delightful little hop in which (thanks to the floor managers) the officers of the post and their ladies were honored with neat invitations. As a matter of course, the affair passed off with great success, and much to the satisfaction of all concerned. As a sequel to this gaiety, the other half of the body *militaire*, not wishing to be outdone by their neighbors, thought that Thanksgiving day would be an appropriate time to give a hop (styled "hoodoo" by the natives hereabout), that they might thus promote the digestion of their turkeys, and save the doctor the trouble of prescribing for dyspepsia at sick call the next morning.

For four or five days before turkey day, the combined talent of Batteries K and B of the First and Fourth regiments of Artillery, respectively, were engaged in decorating the ball and supper rooms; and, to their credit be it said, never was there a more tasty and elaborate decoration of rooms known in the Army—at least this was the opinion of those officers present who were eating many "fogies." It was very unfortunate that the usually omnipresent artist of *Frank Leslie* or the *Last Sensation* could not have appeared on this occasion and sketched this brilliant spectacle. There was plenty of bunting and evergreens to give the scene a patriotic and verdant appearance. The managers got up handsomely-printed invitations, and dispensed them liberally, to the command and local residents, as well as to officers of rank commanding in other departments.

The ball opened about 9 o'clock, P. M., with the mellifluous strains of the Junction City string band, and the more dulcet notes of the fair ones' voices. The list of dances was long and attractive; and, after enjoying the terpsichorean pleasure until midnight, a stentorian voice from the company kitchen announced "supper." Though all had bountifully partaken of the "good things" at dinner, still, thanks to those good appetizers—good music, and plenty of dancing on a beautifully waxed floor—we all obeyed the summons with alacrity, and did full justice to an elegant and substantial repast. Having satisfied the wants of the inner man and woman, the gay throng once more repaired to the ball-room, and the dance still went on, and only concluded when daylight was announced by that noisy bag of saltpetre sent forth from the morning gun.

All pronounced the affair a great success, and reflecting great credit upon those having it in their immediate charge. The deportment of the rank and file, during the ball, was faultless, and not an unpleasant incident occurred to mar the enjoyment of the evening. In fact it is questionable if the same festivity could have been thus enjoyed by all grades in any other army than our own (excepting the French, perhaps) without some scene of disorder and insubordination.

TERPSICHORE

FORT RILEY, KANSAS, Nov. 19, 1869.

CAMP SUPPLY, I. T.

To the Editor of the Army and Navy Journal.

SIR: I observe that your occasional correspondent from this camp has, of late, failed to supply his letter, and in view of his remissness, I have appointed myself a court of inquiry to "sit without regard to hours," and to report from time to time "why these things are thusly" (paraphrasing this Josh "Billingsgate").

The "last trumpet" (for the night) is sounding and the wind is blowing a young hurricane, which, by the way, is unimportant, but should there be a lull before the mail leaves, I shall mention it as a news item, for there is more wind here than in the State of Illinois about election time, and dust "till you can't see."

Camp Supply is something of a misnomer as applied to this garrison, for it has grown from a supply camp to be a post of no little importance. The four companies of the Eighteenth Cavalry are snugly quartered in good log buildings of their own make, and the three companies of the Third Infantry are in cantonments, or in something which resembles those friendly places, under ground covered with logs and mother earth, which were so convenient in front of Petersburg in days gone by. Brevet Colonel A. D. Nelson commands the post and the highest respect of all under him. The agency for the Cheyenne and Arapahoe Indians is here, and the agent is of the fraternity of Friends, Brinton Darlington by name. The Indians of both tribes number about thirty-four hundred, and are rationed by Captain Bonney, U. S. A., every five days, or as often as the agent requires. Peace and comparative contentment prevail among them at present, though for two months past it has been apprehended that the Cheyenne might attempt retaliation for friends lost in the Carr fight, but they have a healthy respect for the commanding officer, and know that what he says to them he means. They believe him to be "big medicine."

The staff of the post consists of active, social fellow-officers. There are some sportsmen here, including the commanding officer; and fowl game, such as turkey, geese, duck, pheasant and quail, abound hereabouts for their hunting, and scarcely a day passes but some of the gentlemen come in with their game bags choke full. Turkey is as common as "canned stuff" at the mess ta-

ble, and the flesh is unequalled in flavor and texture by the domestic fowl, which latter, in point of size, is just "nowhere," comparatively speaking. A party of officers accompanied by two English gentlemen, one an officer and son of the commander-in-chief of the British forces, returned a few days since from a three-days hunt, with loads of fowl game, much to the delight of the visitors and enjoyment of everybody, as the birds were distributed to the messes, and things presented a gay appearance for some days.

The Kiowas and Comanches have been reported as beligerent at Fort Sill, but we don't know here positively of their hostility. "White Bear" and "Kicking Bird," two chiefs of some importance among the Kiowas, were here not long since, for no good, some of the mysterious predictors aver. They received orders to make themselves scarce. They comprehended their orders and acted accordingly.

"Bull Bear" of the "dog soldiers" (a chief of about fifty or sixty lodges), recently joined the Cheyennes, and is peacefully disposed. He, with his band, were said to have been in the Carr fight, but he denies it, and he expresses himself satisfied to get his rations with the rest of the Cheyennes. I believe he was formerly of the Cheyennes. To the army reader it is, of course, unnecessary to explain what dog soldier is. A renegade from his tribe—an outlaw and outlawed among the organized Indians—he frequently joins with others like himself, to form bands of the most desperate fighters and thieves of the Plains Indians.

The following is one of the inducements here to keep the peace among the Indians, viz.: One and a half pounds of fresh beef net per day; four ounces of flour and four ounces hard bread; four ounces shelled corn with a small modicum of bacon; soap, salt, sugar and coffee for each soul. They are killing a considerable number of buffalo, and the robes are getting to be very good, though a month later and there will be some splendid skins brought in, as nearly all of both tribes are hunting just at present. The fire in my "Sibley" is getting low, and, as I don't care to "freeze out," I'll close my hand and rise from my "sitting." "SQUIBOR."

NOVEMBER 12, 1869.

PROF. MAHAN MUSTERED OUT.

To the Editor of the Army and Navy Journal.

SIR: In his letter of November 10th, relating to the Association of West Point Graduates, Professor Mahan announces that those "are the last words" he "shall ever trouble the JOURNAL with on that subject." To reply to him after this may seem a little cruel, but it is sometimes necessary to be cruel that we may be kind; and, besides this, the Professor don't stop because he is down, but because he considers his opponents down. We are not quite willing he should leave us so soon. Though we are down, we must hold him a little longer even if it be done by "inserting our nose between his teeth," as Phoenix did with the editor. Though a Regular by trade, he is a Volunteer in this skirmish, and should remember that to enter the service voluntarily by no means carries with it the right to leave it in the same manner. Perhaps we may very soon discharge him, but we deny his right to get into a pet, berate his fellow soldiers, and then desert them.

The Professor quotes from an address, and applies to us (I mean us of the opposition) the words "there were bustling people whose peculiar province it was to intermeddle with everything going on, and whose perpetual dispensation it was to know nothing about it. But they made up by the recklessness of their assertions for their want of knowledge." The Professor's own position here is aptly illustrated by the old story of the inebriate who declared everybody but himself was drunk and that even the lamp posts were staggering. Who "bustles" more than he? and who intermeddles so much? While we do not deny him the privilege of bustling and intermeddling, we protest against the justice of his implied claim for a monopoly of the business. It is too dear to the rest of the Army to be given up so lightly. The proposition which the Professor quotes from "Another" and attacks, is this. "There can be no reasonable doubt that the Association of West Point Graduates looks to the establishment of a species of exclusiveness in the Army, and that its tendency is to disturb the concord that should prevail among its officers." And he denies that exclusiveness was spoken of in the meetings in which this Association originated, and then asserts "that no man who may read this (his) letter, and has any regard for the truth will ever attempt hereafter to propagate so groundless an assumption."

Is it fair or becoming thus to give persons who may be honest in their opinions the lie in advance? For this is simply a matter of opinion,—no allegation is made as to the intentions of the originators of this scheme, nor as to what was spoken of in their meetings; and when "Another" says that the Association "looks" to the establishment of a species of exclusiveness he only says that in his opinion it is likely to produce that result, and in this opinion he is by no means alone. That "its tendency is to disturb the concord that should prevail among officers of the Army," though but an opinion when written, has by the very discussion aroused, come to be an established fact.

The Professor urges the general right of officers of the Army, to form associations on "any common bond of union," and asserts positively, even dictatorially, the impertinence of interference therewith by "outsiders." We will not discuss that matter with him. The point is not as to the general right of officers to form associations, but it is as to the effect of forming this particular association by graduates of West Point. If what we hear of the Professor is true, he would mark a student down to zero for wandering as far from the point in a recitation as he himself has done in this discussion.

As a precedent for this Association, the Professor refers to the associations of the several separate armies which took part in the rebellion, as the Army of the Potomac, of the Tennessee, etc. The precedent is not in point. These Army associations are based on the

bond of service in the field, common alike to all officers in these armies, and draws them together. The Association of West Point Graduates is based on the bond arising from the place of professional education, is confined to a part of the officers of the Army, and is calculated to draw that part away from the other part.

But the discussion has gone far enough. Let us have a compromise. Let the West Pointers drop the organization and have banquets when and where they choose, and invite thereto "One" and "Another," and all the other good fellows among the non-graduates who may be at hand, and then concord will be produced. The fact is, in most of these modern associations, there is nothing but the "banquet" worth contending about. The "exchange of ideas" is all bosh; and the charity part is practically a humbug. The appropriation by post councils for the benefit of the Old Soldiers' Home, do not come in until the expenses of the bakehouse, etc., have been provided for, and then there is little or no balance. In the same way the appropriations for the destitute, by these associations, are not in order until the "banquet" expenses are paid, and then there is nothing left. The banquet is the big thing; have that, and let everything else go.

In closing, we must protest against the way the Professor slashes right and left as if the exclusiveness, which he denies all intention of producing, actually existed, and all the graduates were safely ensconced on his side. Such is not the case. The opposition, in this particular movement is largely made up of West Pointers; and, in his recklessness, the Professor is hitting friend as well as foe. We agree with him that "it is high time that these petty means of indirectly traducing and fostering hostility against the graduates of West Point, as a body, should be put a stop to;" and, to check the wrong, West Pointers should, as far as practicable, remove all the causes for it, among them, this "association," which, we must have the justice to say, has, thus far, suffered less by attack from its enemies than by the defence of its friends. The Professor charges those who differ with him on the subject with a want of knowledge in regard to it. We leave the readers of the JOURNAL to decide whether want of knowledge on this practical point is more likely to prevail in the service at large or at West Point.

Lest the Professor carry out his threat of not returning to the service of this discussion, in which he volunteered, and has been regularly enlisted, we will rescue him from the penalties of desertion by declaring him hereby honorably mustered out "as of the date of his leaving"—to wit, November 10, 1869. YORK.

P. S.—We don't exactly see the application of the fable of the wolf and the lamb given in the Professor's postscript. Please, Mr. Showman, which are the wolf, and which are the lamb?

Y.

THE GUARD HOUSE.

A SOLDIER who writes to us from the "Post Guard House" sends the following:

"Who enters here leaves hope behind,"

Was said by Dante once of hell.

"Twas left for us in here to find

That hope may die on earth as well.

Here, side by side may striplings lie

With those who bear their honor'd scars;

Alike they gaze, with plaintive eye,

On cold gray stones and iron bars.

Here drops a heart that but requir'd

One word of praise, 'twas but his due;

But, careless they of whom desir'd,

This heart, in turn, grew careless too.

Here, too, may lie the son of those

Who built fond hopes of his career,

Who thro' his faults now weep his woes

In prison, fetters and despair.

A chequer'd crowd whose chequer'd past

Might furnish food for quill and pen,

Who tho' in here by fortune cast,

Are not the less true-hearted men.

Who can their future fate rehearse

And feel no tinge of dread or fear?

Have for their present lot a curse,

And, for the past, perhaps a tear.

SAN ANTONIO.

THE CASE OF SURGEON GREEN AGAIN.

To the Editor of the Army and Navy Journal.

SIR: Your correspondent "W." in his communication of the 13th, seems inclined to discuss the case of Surgeon Green in a fair and reasonable spirit. He is, therefore, entitled to be set right upon the vital point of the case, concerning which he seems to be uninformed. The list from which the name was ordered to be taken in the case referred to, was the binnacle, or excused list. This, though sometimes incorrectly called the sick list, is not the medical record, nor even the morning report from it, nor is it a statement of any kind containing any record or report of the condition of any one. It is simply a list of names of men, with their rating, without other remark of any kind, which, posted each morning on the ship's binnacle, in the ordinary routine of the ship's duty, is the authority from the commanding officer, through the surgeon, to the officer of the deck, to excuse from duty for the day the men whose names appear on it. I say authority from the commanding officer, because it is not denied that the excusing is by his authority.

"W" admits this much to be "in accordance with an undisputed principle." Now if it is conceded, that in the commanding officer alone resides the ultimate power of excusing or not excusing from duty, it must follow that he has the authority to order the name of a man off of a list which does excuse him from duty, and which has absolutely no other intent, bearing or effect, than to excuse him from duty.

The explanation of "W" that he is an officer of the

Army, and not of the Navy, justifies the assumption that led astray by the different customs of the two services, he has himself "confounded the radically different functions" of a medical record with those of a binnacle list, and he will doubtless regret that he has been induced by his "sense of simple justice" to follow an example, lately so frequent, of recklessly imputing ignorance or unfairness to others, while he himself was uninformed on the very point of the controversy.

NOVEMBER 20, 1869.

NAVAL OFFICER.

OUR NAVAL ADMINISTRATION.

To the Editor of the Army and Navy Journal.

SIR: Passing through the halls of the Navy Department some days since, we happened to hear a naval officer of high rank exclaim, with no little emphasis, that "he felt now, for the first time in many years, as if he belonged to the Navy." He might very well have said, as, doubtless, he in great part meant, "he felt that we were now to have a Navy of which the country might feel proud." And I have since learned that the sentiments expressed on this occasion are those of the great majority of our naval officers.

I purpose, Messrs. Editors, giving you here a summary of what has been accomplished, and is in process of accomplishment by the Navy Department since the 4th of last March, confining myself, of course, to such matters as may properly be made public.

In the first place, Mr. Borie had the good sense to perceive, and the moral courage to admit, his want of familiarity with the details of official routine in the department over which he was so suddenly and unexpectedly called to preside, and, seeking for guidance in this *terra incognita*, he naturally cast about for some naval officer whose distinguished services merited the honor of selection, and whose professional ability and large experience, once enlisted in his aid, would insure a successful administration. In taking this enlarged view of the situation, Mr. Borie sought to be inducted into more than mere "official routine," in which any of the senior clerks of the Department were fully capable of instructing him. He sought, rather, that the office of which he was head should guide and control with intelligence the arm of the public service intrusted to its care, that it should be brought up to such a state of efficiency as would be creditable to the country.

There can be no question in any candid mind, either in or out of the Navy, that every act and circumstance of his life pointed to the Vice-Admiral of the Navy as the proper person to assist the recently-appointed Secretary in his new field of labor.

Mr. Robeson, with equal judgment, confirmed this act of Mr. Borie, and both gentlemen have but followed the example forced upon Mr. Welles, who, under the pressure of a great war, found himself compelled to call to his aid the services of an expert. If to his great business capacity, his natural energy of character and undoubted integrity, Mr. Fox had added the professional knowledge requisite to such a position, his career in office would, doubtless, have been a brilliant one. Had not Mr. Welles committed the egregious error of appointing a civilian to succeed Mr. Fox, the blunders of his administration might have been retrieved, thousands saved to the United States Treasury, and the Navy placed upon a far different footing from what we have seen it.

That evil is permitted in order that good may follow could receive no more forcible illustration than in the history of our naval administration for the past few years.

The Navy had been going down till it had almost "touched bottom," as they say—sailors had been driven from the service, not so much by neglect as through positive maladministration; officers had become so disengaged as to lose all hopes of better things; everything, in short, belonging to the Navy seemed to be touched by some kind of blight—when, with the inauguration of General Grant, came a new era for the Navy. Henceforth it was to be, like the Army, placed somewhat under the control of those who best knew its wants, and whose reputations were identified with its own—those whose pride was in its glory, and who had an inherent right, hitherto absolutely ignored, to a hand in shaping its ends.

From the moment the Vice-Admiral accepted the position in the Navy Department, a new life seemed to be infused into our national marine. Officers began, at once, to brighten up with renewed hope; and one, who stands among the highest in his profession, but echoed the sentiments of his brother officers when he said he "felt, for the first time in many years, as if he belonged to the Navy."

It is true certain complaints have been made of late, and bitter repinings heard for the old reign of politics, corruption and clerkdom; but,

What rogue o'er felt the halter draw
With good opinion of the law?

One or two editors, in utter ignorance of the subject, have been betrayed by designing persons into admitting into their columns articles intended to decry the present naval administration, and to heap abuse upon the Vice-Admiral.

THE REFORMS INAUGURATED.

One of the earliest and most important measures of Admiral Porter was to provide for the most efficient means of coast and harbor defence. Having determined upon a general plan, he is now having it carried into execution with characteristic energy, some of our best ordnance officers having been detailed for that special service.

He is gradually creating a "steam reserve," one of the best, most economical, and efficient measures that could be adopted for preserving our ships, and keeping them in a constant state of readiness for active service. As soon as a ship returns from a cruise, she is now subjected to a rigid examination, and, if worth it, is taken in hand at once, the hull put in thorough repair, engines overhauled and put in order, and such alterations and improvements made as experience may suggest. This done, she is laid aside, every precaution being taken to preserve her from deterioration, and then held in reserve

until needed, her stores and everything belonging to her for a year's cruise being ready in their respective store-houses, so that on a sudden call, a vessel from the steam reserve could be fitted for sea, and a crew thrown on board in twenty-four hours. The same plan is being pursued with all the ships not in commission. The errors of the late administration in ship-building he is having rectified as rapidly as possible, this alone being no small work.

In place of those hybrids, with their few "great military advantages," regularly known as "smoke-stacks," he is equipping and getting to sea a fleet of sailing vessels, having auxiliary steam power, that our ships may do their cruising under sail, to the immense saving of coal and the improvement of our officers and men in practical seamanship. The coal-consuming, merchant-rigged craft of former days have had an additional keel put on to give them weatherly qualities, and the well-proportioned masts and yards given them of full-rigged ships. Their quarters have been rearranged and improved; the hulls, where admitting it, built up, and comfortable decks given for the crews, while every modern contrivance known, which can add to the efficiency of the ships, or promote the health and comfort of the officers and crews is given without stint.

This is retrenchment of the most practical kind, the saving in fuel alone being immense. But if our ships are to cruise under sail, it is obvious that they will not require a large corps of engineers, firemen, etc., hence we find that the proportion of this corps allotted to the ships of the new fleet is reduced to a minimum, another important item of retrenchment.

He is classifying our ships, or, at least, endeavoring to do so, for it is a task to defy the efforts of any capacity, and gradually restoring order out of chaos, that each ship may represent some certain type of vessel, not peculiar to herself alone, and that ships' batteries may not be composed of as many different calibres as guns. He is rearing, by various efficient means, the old school of seamanship, and reviving among the officers the professional pride which had been so long repressed.

Instead of the ships of our foreign squadrons being scattered about a station, and lying in favorite ports month after month, and often without exercises or drills of any kind for long periods, our admirals are now obliged to keep their ships together in squadrons, and to exercise them frequently at sea, under sail, in naval tactics. Who can doubt the beneficial effects of this upon officers and crews?

Our seamen, who had been actually driven from the service, are now invited back, and such inducements are held out as to warrant the belief that we shall not only get a good class of men, but, what is of the utmost importance, that we shall be able to retain them in the service permanently. The "continuous service certificate," the good-service badges, the gradual increase of compensation, or longevity pay, the more certain tenure by which petty officers will now hold their appointments, the new rating of "seaman gunner," and the many advantages belonging to the position, and the new system under which our seamen, on enlisting, will be furnished gratuitously with an outfit of good clothing, made in the style of the naval uniform, instead of issuing, at high prices, shoddy clothing which had to be entirely re-made, throwing the men hopelessly in debt at the very beginning of their term of enlistment: these and other important and effective measures will bring our seamen to feel that they belong to the Navy as much as their officers do, and that their interests are watched over and guarded by those in power with an earnest solicitude.

Every one admits now that a properly-regulated apprentice system is an essential adjunct to a navy. Under the late administration our apprentice system was not only brought into disrepute, but it was actually made instrumental in inflicting a most serious blow upon the Navy. One of the first acts of Admiral Porter was to procure the abolition of that most pernicious law which authorized the yearly appointment of ten apprentice boys to the Naval Academy, and he has very wisely allowed the system as lately carried on to die out. Training ships and a revised system of naval apprenticeship are now under consideration, which, when matured, will be on such a basis as to insure its success in giving us a class of hardy, active young seamen, who will be taught to regard their service in the Navy as their employment for life.

By competitive examination the young graduate is now kept up to his studies and spurred on to improve his professional knowledge; and officers of all grades are finding out that a zealous attention to duty will not go unrewarded, nor high professional attainments be overlooked. Boards composed of officers of experience have been appointed for the purpose of inspecting and reporting on the condition of our navy-yards; for experimenting with small arms, in order to select the best for use in the Navy; for examining officers for promotion; for regulating the outfits of ships, and revising the Book of Allowances, and for many other purposes. Two ends are here secured; first, the accomplishment, in a short space of time, of a vast amount of useful work, and second, in utilizing a great deal of talent and ripe experience hidden under the retired list, and hitherto entirely ignored.

Officers, as well as others, who have any new inventions, original plans, or suggestions, are encouraged to make them known to the Department, where they may be sure of a patient hearing, and the adoption of whatever may be good. The candidate for admission into the Marine Corps will hereafter be required to possess a liberal education, and there is no doubt that corps will receive from the same comprehensive genius the attention it has so long needed.

A signal corps has been organized, and is already in full operation. A new signal book has been prepared, a work very much needed; instructions in great-gun drill issued, a subject in which the ordnance manual is very defective, and the U. S. Naval Regulations have been revised and systematized. There is, in fact, scarcely a single point in the wide range of naval administration left untouched by this master spirit.

WHAT IS FURTHER PROPOSED.

Inventors of all kinds of nautical devices at all suitable to the wants of the service may rely upon a fair trial of their designs, if possessed of sufficient merit to warrant it. Wittram's patent anchor, the Normandy aerated fresh-water apparatus, Gisborne's steering telegraph, Torrey's gutta-percha life buoys, improved surf boats, and numerous patent boat-detaching apparatuses, are being experimented upon in the Navy, and the majority already adopted. In process of construction is a new plan of steam launch and cutter, which will be far superior to anything yet seen in the Navy, and the entire boat service of the Navy is undergoing re-organization. Besides the foregoing, are sundry important measures, such as preparing designs for the most formidable war vessels yet conceived of; a complete system of coast defence, etc., matters which it is not necessary more particularly to specify; while the extensive improvements which have been meanwhile going on at the Naval Academy, under the Vice-Admiral's immediate supervision, are purposely omitted. And yet with all this labor, there are hundreds of persons who will bear testimony to the fact that, in matters of business connected with the service, the Vice-Admiral is at all times accessible, and facilities given them for dispatching their affairs with the utmost promptitude. The circumlocution office he has put out of commission.

On the 22nd of last March, a resolution was adopted by Congress, authorizing the appointment of a Congressional committee on American navigation interests. Some of the evidence elicited by this committee can not fail to startle even those who were aware of the great decline of our commerce. Out of sixty barkers reported to have arrived recently in New York, forty-three were foreign bottoms: and we actually have to employ foreign vessels to carry our produce abroad; all the money paid in freights to owners of foreign vessels, going from us without any adequate return, to the great injury of the financial interests of the country. It costs now, owing to the restrictions imposed by Congress, about seventy-eight dollars per ton to build ships, while, just across the border in Canada, it costs but forty dollars per ton. No naval officer, comprehending the relative positions of the national and mercantile marines, can read this evidence with indifference, and there is no one who has a juster appreciation of our merchant service and of the necessity of fostering its interests than Vice-Admiral Porter, and while he occupies his present position, whatever influence the Navy Department can exert in getting our navigation laws revised and the present injurious disabilities removed, will be exerted to the fullest extent; and this not only because a flourishing commerce adds to the material wealth of a country, but that of necessity it employs a large body of seamen who would be available for the Navy in the event of a maritime war.

Furthermore, by encouraging the ship-building interests, we increase the number and refine the skill of those it gives employment to, and gives to the country experienced architects and artisans to build our war vessels; for, like England, we must depend upon our private workshops for the majority of our iron clads. So, too, and for the same reasons, a system of navigation schools, such as have long been in successful operation in Europe, finds a place in the Vice-Admiral's comprehensive scheme of naval administration.

In the contemplation of such a numerous and diversified list of works, our wonder is divided between its extent and the remarkably short space of time taken for its accomplishment; all having been commenced and energetically carried on toward completion since the Vice-Admiral has occupied a chair in the Secretary's office.

And the list is very far from ending here. I am not in the confidence of Admiral Porter, but it is fair to presume that his very fertile and original turn of mind has in contemplation schemes for the improvement of the Navy which he has only communicated to those about him. It is fair to presume that all relating to the hydrography of our own and adjacent coasts will receive his attention, that the penal code of the Navy, devised by humanitarians, singularly ignorant of the requirements of naval discipline, and based upon what is popularly known as the "moral suasion system" will be replaced by something effective, and that the troublesome question of relative rank in the Navy will be satisfactorily adjusted.

Such is an outline, however rough and imperfect, of the able policy of this transcendent genius, against whom the Lilliputians raise their small voices. That he is pre-eminently qualified for the important post he now occupies, is freely acknowledged by those who know him personally, as well as by those who know him only through his brilliant record.

If the country desires its Navy to be brought up to the first rank of maritime proficiency at a minimum expenditure of public money, Congress could not do better than to fix by law the Vice-Admiral's present status in the Navy Department.

ARTAXERXES.

THE North German Correspondent says: Mr. Henry Richard, M. P., has lately visited Berlin for the purpose of inducing the members of the Landtag to support a policy of general disarmament. A large number of gentlemen belonging to the two great sections of the Liberal Party were present, and the discussion was lively. Mr. Faucher acted the part of interpreter. Mr. Richard spoke with warmth, and at some length. He explained and defended his plan, urging that it was the duty of all parliaments to do what in them lay for the establishment of international courts of arbitration, whose purpose would be to settle the differences arising between various countries. He added that Mr. Gladstone had promised to support this policy, though not in parliament, while in France, Mr. Passy, and in Belgium, Mr. Fischer, both deputies, had undertaken to further the scheme. The members of the Prussian Landtag who were present did not seem to be entirely convinced by his arguments; they answered that circumstances alter cases, and the present position of Northern Germany is peculiar. Mr. Richard intends to extend his journey to Vienna, in order to continue his labors for the cause of peace.

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THE Good Sisters of the Visitation, call attention in another column, to the advantages offered to officers of the Army and Navy for the education of their daughters, at the Academy of the Visitation, under their control. This Academy, which is situated at Mount de Chantal, near Wheeling, Va., is highly recommended as an educational institution, and the charges for board and tuition are unusually moderate. The fact that it is a convent school will no doubt make it objectionable to many who recall the fact that most young ladies educated at these schools become Catholics, if not already such. Those who are in sympathy with the religious influences controlling the Mount de Chantal Academy, or who share the feeling of the Protestant lady who declared that she did not mind her daughter becoming a Catholic if she could only get a good French pronunciation, will find the advantages offered at this academy every way worthy of their attention. It is highly recommended by leading officers of the Army and Navy.

A 20-INCH gun cast at Perm has recently been tested under the direction of Major-General Pestitch, commandant of the Cronstadt Artillery. The gun was fired 314 times. Each projectile weighed 10 cwt., and the charge of powder required was 130 lb. The weight of the gun is about 50 tons; the recoil was seven feet; the initial velocity 1,120 feet per second, and the percussive force at a distance of 50 feet about 10,000 tons. The official report states that this is the most powerful gun in Europe.

THE United States tugboat *Maria*, that had so long watched the Spanish gunboats at the foot of Thirteenth street, New York, left the Brooklyn Navy-yard, Sunday night, November 28th, with a draft of 160 men, for Portsmouth, N. H., where they are to be transferred to the steam frigate *Benicia*, which has received sailing orders for China, and will start immediately. The place of the *Maria* is filled now at the foot of Thirteenth street by the tugboat *Kalbfleisch*.

THE *Severn*, having adjusted her compasses, proceeded to sea Tuesday afternoon, November 23d, having the *Pawnee* in tow, and accompanied by the United States tug *Leven*. The *Pawnee* is to take the place of the *New Hampshire*, as receiving ship at Norfolk. The *Severn*, after coaling, will proceed to Key West, where she will relieve the *Pocahontas*, as flagship of the North Atlantic Squadron.

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The Editor does not hold himself responsible for individual expressions of opinion in communications addressed to the JOURNAL.

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Subscribers who purpose binding their volumes at the end of the year should be careful to preserve their files of the paper, as we no longer stereotype the paper, and are not able, therefore, to supply all of the back numbers of this volume.

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THE CASE OF THE SPANISH GUNBOATS.

THE question of the Spanish gunboats presents itself in a new aspect to our legal authorities. Just as the Spaniards are congratulating themselves that they must be released, on the ground that the libel brought against them by Peru is insufficient to hold them, Mr. GROSVENOR P. LOWREY, the counsel of the Cuban Junta, appears in court with a legal opinion to the effect that our Government is prohibited by positive statute from letting these vessels loose to prey upon Cuba. The opinion of Mr. LOWREY, with the affidavits upon which it is based, we give elsewhere. These papers sufficiently explain themselves. The doctrine propounded by Mr. LOWREY is interesting and at the same time new, inasmuch as the case of Cuba against the Spanish gunboats is the first which has arisen under the act of 1817-18, which was passed expressly to provide for such cases. We have at different times since the passage of that act been called upon to enforce it, but never before at the instance of a diplomatically-unrecognized belligerent.

Some suggestions, derived from the brief statement of reason by Mr. LOWREY, may profitably be further followed out. It has been customary to confound questions of neutral conduct with the question of political recognition. These two should at all times be understood to be, as they are, separate and distinct, having no necessary relation to each other. True, a recognized state, which is at war, may always invoke our statute; but it does not follow conversely that unrecognized states may not have its protection. There is no international law, except for nations; but our statute law is for the benefit of all whom it describes. The only question for the court in this case, should the gunboats be labelled on the complaint of Cuba, will be whether the insurgent Government of Cuba is a "colony, district or people," within the meaning of the statute.

The question in the first instance for the District Attorney is whether a *prima facie* case, such as all prosecutions are based upon, has been made out, including the condition that this insurgent government is such a "colony, district or people." He is estopped from entertaining a contrary opinion by his own allegations, made in the name of the Government in the case of the steamer *Catherine Whiting*, which he has caused to be labelled for condemnation upon the ground (without which there could be no offence against the neutrality act), that she had been fitted out with intent to cruise against "the subjects, citizens and property of the Government of Spain, in the service of a foreign people, to wit, a portion of the people of the Island of Cuba, a colony of the Government of Spain." Upon the same ground the *Hornet* has, during the past month, been labelled at Wilmington. It seems therefore too late for the Government to recede from that position. It is interesting to observe how the far-sighted statesmen of the day foresaw and comprehended just this question. In the debates upon the law of 1817, Mr. CLAY then speaker of the House, said that "whenever a war existed, whether between two independent states or between parts of a common empire, he knew of but two relations in which other powers could stand toward the belligerents; the one was that of neutrality, the

other that of belligerency. It should be recollected" he added, "that we have an existing law directed against armaments such as are described in this bill. That law was passed in 1794. If the law did not reach the case, which he understood to be doubtful from some judicial decisions, he was willing to legislate so far as to comprehend it."

Mr. HOPKINSON said, "In the present case, however desirous for the success of the colonies gentlemen had expressed themselves, he found none speaking in their legislative official capacity, who doubted the country ought to lay its hands upon its citizens and prevent them from aiding either party in the contest." "He would say nothing of the nature of this struggle; he would neither call them patriots nor rebels; he knew them only as two parties at war, and what was or had been the connection between them formed no part of this question. There was in the law of nations no difference between our duty in this case and in a war between any other belligerents: he considered it precisely as he should a war between Spain and Portugal, Spain and England, or any other two powers; and our duty required that we should maintain a strict neutrality between them."

The case referred to by Mr. CLAY was doubtless the case of *GELSTON vs. HOYT*, cited by Mr. LOWREY and which had then just been decided, but not yet reported, in the Supreme Court of New York. Upon this reasoning, and with this purpose, the act was passed, enlarging the former act so as to include "colonies, districts and peoples." It would seem idle to suggest that recognized communities were intended by these words, for there is no such thing in the diplomatic sense as a recognized district, or even a recognized colony or people. The terms prince or state comprehended all that was then or is now known and accepted in the family of nations. A formal recognition of belligerent rights is generally only a measure of protection for the nation promulgating it and its citizens. It is for the benefit of the nation, because the proclamation of recognition sets out in advance the privileges which it will permit each belligerent to enjoy within its dominions. Thus it is secure from any charge of partiality, as in the progress of the war particular cases requiring its action arise. But there is no obligation to give this recognition; the giving or withholding it in no wise affects the obligation of the citizen to refrain from participation or aid in respect to the matters forbidden by the statute. Nor has it been customary for this country to make this formal proclamation. In the case of Texas, the then Secretary of State said "it had never been considered necessary to make a proclamation with respect to the extension of the right of hospitality, or to balance the probabilities of success, or to determine these points definitively, having judged it sufficient that one of the parties had proclaimed its independence, and had maintained it in a positive manner. Such has been the policy hitherto followed by the United States."

As a proposition of law, therefore, it would seem indisputable that the belligerent right to neutral conduct springs from the provisions of the stated law, and whether an offence against that law has been committed is determinable as an issue of fact by such evidence as is usually admitted in courts of justice. Whenever a formal recognition of either belligerency or independence has been politically given, there the evidence is of the highest character, and not to be disputed. When that evidence does not exist, other proof to the same effect must be admitted if offered, as was done in the English case of *YRISSARI vs. CLEMENT*, quoted by Mr. LOWREY. It will be understood that these decisions are only claimed to be applicable in cases like this, and not to those cases where a community claims in the courts some privilege in exemption, which is by international law only conceded to independent nations. It is to this class of cases that the case of *ROSE vs. HIMELY* in this country, and similar cases in England refer, and this distinction is necessary to be borne in mind in apprehending the argument which is made to favor the according of neutrality to states or communities which have declared their own independence, but have not yet succeeded in obtaining recognition of that independence by other nations.

In a series of articles, published in this journal some years since, General McCLELLAN showed the importance of strengthening our military hold upon the Pacific coast, and Vice-Admiral PORTER, in an article published in the "Galaxy" magazine, has directed public attention to the necessity of taking measures for securing our naval supremacy in the same direction. That Secretary ROBESON also understands what is needed, is shown by his course since he has been in the Navy Department. The Navy-yard at Mare Island is being put into condition, as rapidly as possible, as a first-class yard. Two heavy monitors, the *Monadnock* and *Camanche*, are kept ready to be put in commission at twenty-four hours' notice. All the vessels in the Pacific fleet have been or are being altered into full-rigged ships able to keep the sea for an indefinite period while their coal and machinery is kept intact until the proper time comes to use them. Magazines are being rapidly built for the reception of ammunition, and several merchant ships are now on their way to California with guns and powder sufficient to supply all future wants. Marine barracks, and quarters for marine officers are going up, workshops are being erected, and the citizens of California have a prospect of seeing at Mare Island, the best Navy-yard in the United States.

San Francisco cannot depend upon its forts for protection. Any ship can pass the Golden Gate at night, and an enemy's fleet could lay the city under contribution without danger to themselves. Hence the Government considers it necessary to provide ample naval protection. Besides the building and repair of vessels in the Pacific, it is intended that Mare Island shall build and repair vessels for the China and Japan stations, provide vessels for the new possessions of Alaska, and take care of the South Pacific fleet, which has guard as far down as Cape Horn.

WE commend the communication which appears elsewhere, from an officer of our Navy now on sea service, to those editors who are showing so much anxiety to learn the secret of the activity which has prevailed in the Navy, since the inauguration of General GRANT. This article tells them, what every Naval officer knew before, that this activity is the result of a vigorous determination, on the part of the Secretary of the Navy, to put our Navy into the best condition of which it is capable, and it shows them, what some of them are so unwilling to believe, that this purpose is based upon a comprehension of our Naval necessities, which has already produced results that astonish all familiar with the facts. What has been done will, we are confident, commend itself to the good sense of the country, as well as to the judgment of Congress; in spite of the persistent attempts to mislead public sentiment in regard to the character of our present Naval administration.

The fact that our Navy has been put into a condition for efficient service, while the expenditures of the Navy Department exhibit a saving of nearly half a million of dollars a month, as compared with those of last year, should be sufficient answer to criticisms. So long as Secretary ROBESON is able to show so good a record, he can well afford to disregard the cavils of those who object to his calling in the aid of professional assistance, such as every Naval or War Secretary must need when he has not had the advantage of a professional training himself. As the former Secretary, Mr. WELLES, adopted this course without objection throughout nearly the whole of his administration, the complaints against the present Secretary must be due to the fact that he has shown so much better judgment in the selection of his professional assistant that the results accomplished by him will reflect injuriously upon the record of previous administrations.

It is expected that surveying vessels will shortly be attached to all our foreign squadrons, especially in China and Japan, to produce correct charts of all coasts. Our fleet in the Pacific is directed to cruise actively among the islands of the great archipelago, giving protection to our commerce and citizens in those distant regions, and each ship afloat may be

said to be doing double duty or twice as much as is done by any foreign vessel of war.

At a recent trial of breech-loading arms in Liege, on behalf of the Greek and Belgian governments, there was a large attendance of the principal gun manufacturers of Europe and America. The trial took place under the supervision of the director of the government arsenal. A prize of 500 francs was offered for the gun that should be fired 15 shots, then have its breech mechanism taken in pieces, assembled again, and be again fired fifteen shots. The Remington gun took the first prize, the time for the aforesaid operation being 1 minute and 30 seconds. The time for the Mouser gun was 1 minute and 42 seconds, that for the Peabody 2 minutes and 40 seconds. The Remington gun also received several extreme trials for strength, being fired with 750 grains of very fine powder and 40 balls, completely filling the barrel, so that the last wad projected from the muzzle. After firing three heavy charges, the Remington gun still remained in good working order, no change being apparent save a slight swelling of the barrel.

THE U. S. ship *Idaho*, writes a correspondent of the JOURNAL, after a long sojourn at Nagasaki, as a hospital and storeship, was finally recalled, and left that port for Yokohama on the 14th of August. Here she took on board the invalids of the squadron for passage to Panama via Hong Kong and the Sandwich Islands, her ultimate destination being San Francisco. She sailed from Yokohama on the 20th of September, and on the next day she encountered one of the most terrible typhoons on record. The indications of a gale were quite marked the morning the ship sailed, the barometer having fallen from 30.05 at one o'clock to 29.00 at 8 A. M., and continuing its descent until it stood at 27.62 at 7 A. M. of the 21st.

By daylight of the 21st a fine drizzling rain set in and the sea became rough. The wind had hauled to the southward and eastward, and continued blowing steadily from this direction until the ship got into the very centre of the approaching typhoon. By one P. M. the topsails were close-reefed, and soon after the mainsail and Mizzen topsail were furled. By three P. M. the foresail started and was also furled. At five the ship was hove to on port tack under fore storm staysail, fore try-sail and close-reefed topsail, heading S. W. by S., the hurricane steadily blowing all this time from the S. E. The barometer indicated 29.50, rapidly falling. At 5:15 the main yard went in the slings in three pieces, the main topsail being completely blown away by the same squall. The main try-sail was close reefed and set, but soon disappeared. The fury of the typhoon was now indescribable, but the ship behaved well, laying over on her side almost motionless. The gusts were sudden and violent. The sea was blown down quite smooth, the water being driven in clouds of fine spray, which made it impossible to see twenty feet. It was absolutely impossible to lift the head above the rail or even to look to windward. The voice of a man near by was inaudible, and even had orders been given and heard they could not have been obeyed. The fore storm sail and fore try-sail soon followed the main, and left the ship without canvas.

At 6:30 P. M., the maintopsail-yard, with fore and Mizzen royal-masts, and all the royal and top-gallant yards, went in one of the gusts, followed by the main topmast, which broke short off at the cap, carrying with it the main top and all its hamper. Boat-swnings and tarpaulins had been placed in weather main and Mizzen riggings; but the men could not mount the topgallant forecastle to put them in the fore. The barometer was 27.82. The ship was now laboring heavily, and began shipping seas; the first coming on board forward, sweeping her decks, tearing away the cabin, the pantry and armory bulkheads, and lifting the whale-boat into the Mizzen rigging, and there breaking it to pieces. A second sea quickly followed, washing away the other boats, all the remaining bulkheads, hammock-rail, sky-lights, hatch-battens and tarpaulins, and allowing tons of water to get below. The pumps were well attended to, the water at one time rising from 7½ to 10½ inches. At 7:30 the barometer was down to 27.62, and the ship was almost on her beam-ends, straining in every timber, and the beams and knees in the main deck breaking one after another. The darkness was intense—a few flashes of sheet lightning only making the scene more wild. At 7:40, the wind, with one fierce gust, suddenly died away to a calm; and the ship was in the vortex, and there remained until 9:20, when she encountered the other half of the typhoon, which blew from N. E., varying to the northward and westward. While in the centre of calm, the seas were in irregular masses, and boarded the ship over both bows, both quarters and starboard gangway at the same time. It was the general belief that the ship was then gone, but she gradually rose with four feet of water on her spar-deck.

Toward morning the hurricane subsided; but the ship was a wreck. The wire rigging held the pieces of yards and masts in a confused heap. This was cleared away as quickly as possible, jury-masts and sails rigged, and the ship worked back to Yokohama, where she arrived on the 28th of September, and was condemned by a board of survey as unseaworthy. At present she is awaiting orders from the Department, and probably will be sold, as she does not answer the expectations of a permanent storeship. Her diagonal iron braces are probably all that held her together. Her splendid model and unrivalled qualities as a sea boat enabled her to ride over that fearful sea when no other vessel afloat could have done so. Her men behaved admirably, eighteen of them receiving more or less serious injuries. The prisoners were released at six o'clock, and distinguished themselves by their brave exposure of their lives.

It is a pity that the *Idaho*, the finest-modelled ship in the Navy, should meet with such a sad fate. Her sea-going days are over, and she never again will leave Yokohama as a Government or a private ship.

The following is a correct list of her officers: Commander Bushrod B. Taylor, commanding; Lieutenant Samuel Wilson, executive officer; Lieutenant Charles M. Anthony, navigator; Lieutenant Richard C. Hooper; Masters, Oscar W. Farenholz, John F. Merry; surgeon, Albert L. Gihon; paymaster, George A. Lyon; assistant-surgeon, Jerome H. Kidder; midshipmen, W. E. Uhler, G. K. Bower, G. K. Adams, J. C. Hull, C. A. Copp; boatswain, Nicholas Anderson; captain's clerk, B. F. Warren; paymaster's clerk, H. McManus.

ON Wednesday, December 1st, Commodore John L. Worden assumed the superintendency of the Naval Academy. At 10 A. M., the battalion of midshipmen was drawn up under arms, in charge of Lieutenant-Commander Coffin, all officers attached to the Academy were congregated in front of the superintendents quarters, and the Marine Guard was posted at the lower gate. Soon after ten the Commodore arrived, accompanied by Captain N. B. Harrison, commandant of midshipmen. As the party entered the gate, the guard presented arms, the drums played two ruffles, and the band played an operatic air. The Commodore was then introduced to all the officers and to the battalion; as the battalion presented arms, the gunnery ship *Santee* saluted the flag of Vice-Admiral Porter with fifteen guns, the flag being hauled down at the last gun, and then the Commodore's broad pennant hoisted and saluted with thirteen guns. The battalion then went through the ceremony of dress parade, closing with the "Silent drill," for which the midshipmen are so well noted. The dismissal of the parade closed the ceremonies. Vice-Admiral Porter was unable to be present, owing to the pressure of his duties in Washington.

ON receipt of the intelligence of the death of the late George Peabody, the Secretary of the Navy telegraphed to Admiral Radford to send the United States steamer *Richmond* to London, to receive the remains and convey them to this country. Secretary Fish at once apprised Mr. Motley by cable of this action. Almost simultaneously, the latter received a note from Lord Clarendon, stating that the Queen desired to place a vessel of the British navy at the disposal of the friends and executors of Mr. Peabody for the purpose indicated. Mr. Motley fully appreciated the graceful tribute, and though he had already been apprised of the action of this Government, he desired that the courtesy of the Queen should be accepted. He therefore telegraphed to Secretary Fish, who at once instructed him to convey to the Queen through Lord Clarendon the thanks of the President for this appropriate and highly honorable tribute to the memory of an American citizen, and to say that the courtesy was accepted, and that the man-of-war *Richmond* would join her Majesty's vessel as a consort.

Harper's Weekly has begun the publication of a new story, by Wilkie Collins, called "Man and Wife," the opening chapters of which catch us in the meshes of a plot as strange and impenetrable as that of the "Woman in White," or any other of the author's great fictions. Subscribers to the JOURNAL wishing *Harper's Weekly* are aware that the two papers may be obtained together at a reduced rate.

THE Army system of inspection has been introduced with good effect into our Navy, where we have now bi-monthly inspections of hulls and machinery, a rigid system of inspection into the administration of our Navy-yards, and an inspector of machinery afloat attached to each yard who sees to it that the machinery of our war vessels is put into perfect repair as soon as they come into port.

THE LAW OF NEUTRALITY.

THE following legal opinion and affidavits have been presented to U. S. District Attorney Pierrepont, with reference to the case of the Cuban gunboats now being considered in the District Court for the Southern District of New York:

The Hon. Edwards Pierrepont United States District Attorney.

SIR: Mr. Morales Lemus desires me to hand you a brief note of the authorities and reasons upon which counsel have advised him that the neutrality laws forbid the fitting out of expeditions against the revolutionary party or Government in Cuba. This advice has been based upon a statement of facts substantially like that made by him to you, as to the general circumstances and condition of the revolution.

The first statutory declaration of neutrality rights and duties, was by the act of March 2, 1797, (1 Stat. at Large 381). Section three of that act forbade the "fitting etc., of ships to be employed to cruise and commit hostilities upon the subjects, citizens, and property of any foreign prince or state with whom the United States are at peace." With certain interruptions not necessary to be noted, this continued to be the law until 1817.

In 1810, the revolted colony of St. Domingo was divided by two rival chieftains, who maintained war against each other, the government of neither of them being recognized by the United States. In 1816, the Supreme Court of New York, in *Gelston vs. Hoyt*, (18 Johns, 141), decided that the parts of the island respectively under the government of Pétion and Christophe, were not independent states within the meaning of the act of 1797, and that it was not therefore illegal to fit out a vessel for the purpose of assisting the one against the other. This decision being approved in the same year by the Court of Errors and Impeachments, Congress proceeded, at the session 1817, to pass an act entitled "An act more effectually to preserve the neutral relations of the United States" (2 Stat. at Large, 370), act of March 3, 1817, by which they forbade "the fitting, etc., of any vessel etc., with the intent that she should be employed by any foreign prince, state, colony, district or people, to cruise or commit hostilities, or to aid or cooperate in any warlike measures against the subjects, citizens or property of any foreign prince or state, or of any colony, district or people, with whom the United States are at peace."

In February, 1818, the Supreme Court of the United States affirmed *Gelston vs. Hoyt*, and on the 20th of April, Congress took up, and so to speak, codified the whole subject of neutrality in the act (3 Stat. at Large, 448), which is now in force, and which re-enacted in this respect precisely the language of the act of 1817.

As the law now stands, therefore, the statutory obligation of neutrality is due to foreign princes, states, colonies, districts and peoples. It is asserted as matter of fact that a district comprising the larger part of the island of Cuba, is in a state of revolt, in which the great majority, if not all, of the people of that district participate. They have organized a civil government, raised armies, and prosecuted war according to civilized usages.

Mr. Morales Lemus has been advised that these facts bring the revolted Cubans and the country which they hold within the letter and spirit of the law as it relates to a "colony, district or people with whom the United States are at peace."

The argument, irresistible as it appears to Mr. Morales Lemus's legal advisers, which springs from this collocation of the law and the mischief, is still further aided by some considerations, which I shall suggest as briefly as possible, but not presume to discuss.

Neutrality has relation to war, and equally so whether it be civil or foreign war. When a nation, to maintain its sovereignty, makes war upon its own people, other nations permit that war, with its incidents, such as the blockade of domestic ports, but only on the ground that it is war, and that neutral rights shall be protected by both parties. War may exist between communities irrespective of their status among states, and the vice and wrong of interference by others is the same, whether the combatants be recognized or unrecognized. This wrong was found to be without complete remedy under the statute naming only princes and states, and accordingly the remedy was extended to the cases of "colonies, districts and peoples." This amendment was not needed to protect loyal colonies, districts or peoples from external attack, for the right of the ruling princes and states was not limited to their seat of government, but extended *ex proprio vigore* to all their dominions, near or remote. There must have been some other reason for the change in the law. This reason will be found in the history of the times. In 1818 the Spanish American colonies were in full revolt. The people and government of this country, first born from a revolution, sympathized with the struggle for self-government. The obligation of neutrality was admitted to be due to Spain; but it was declared also to be due to such communities as had declared their independence and set about preparing themselves to claim admission among independent states. The difficulty was in defining and naming these inchoate and unrecognized states, and accordingly the largest terms were used, defining them in their political, geographical and collective character. No more efficient words could have been chosen to accomplish the purpose claimed, and include unrecognized belligerents within both the penalty and protection of the law.

A breach of the law contains reciprocal conditions. The ship must not only be intended to cruise against a foreign prince, state, colony, district, or people, but in the service of another foreign prince, state, colony, district, or people. The Government has libelled the *Cuba (Hornet)*, at Wilmington, for this offence against the neutrality laws, and has elsewhere prosecuted stringently for alleged breaches of neutrality.

Certainly if Cuba (not being a prince or state) is a "colony, district or people" for the purpose of committing the offence, she is so for the effect of suffering it. Any other interpretation makes the neutrality act, in case of civil war, both a sword and a shield in the hands of one belligerent.

All the terms of the act are construable in conformity with this interpretation. The "subjects and citizens" of an unrecognized colony, district, or people, are those from whom it claims or receives allegiance. Its "property" is such property, as it in fact holds and claims to own. We may be "at peace" with an unrecognized community. Peace and war are facts, and not deductions. We are at peace with the unrecognized islands of the Pacific Ocean and the tribes of Africa and Asia. We are at peace with whomever we are not at war. We sometimes communicate with these unrecognized political bodies in their assumed character without granting them any diplomatic recognition. We were formerly at war with the unrecognized Barbary States.

Immediately after the passage of the act of 1818 the Supreme Court, unaided by any act or diplomatic declaration by the political branch of the Government, took judicial notice of a state of war between Spain and the revolted colony, district, and people of Venezuela, and yielded to the acts of Venezuelan agents the same effect and validity as to the acts of recognized states. In the case of the *Estrella* (4 Wheaton, 298) the court allowed a commission issued by the unrecognized republic of Venezuela as justification of a capture. In the case of the *Josefa Segunda* (5 Wheaton, 672)—Venezuela being at the time unrecognized either as a belligerent merely or as a state—the Court said: "It would be unreasonable and unjust to visit upon the innocent owners of this property the sins of a pirate; and were this allegation made out the court would find no difficulty in making the restitution which is asked for. But is it so? Was the *General Arismendi* a piratical cruiser? The court thinks not. Among the exhibits is a copy of a commission, which is all that in such a case can be expected, which appears to have been issued under the authority of the Republic of Venezuela. This republic is composed of the inhabitants of a portion of the Dominion of Spain, in South America, who have been for some time past and still are maintaining a contest for independence with the mother country. Although not acknowledged by our Government as an independent nation, it is well known that open war exists between them and his Catholic Majesty, in which the United States maintain strict neutrality. In this state of things this court cannot but respect the belligerent rights of both parties, and does not treat as pirates the cruisers of either, so long as they act under and within the scope of their respective commissions. This capture, then, having been made under a regular commission of the government of Venezuela, the captors acquired thereby a title to the vessel and cargo, which could only be diverted by re-capture or by the sentence of a prize court of the country under whose commission the capture was made."

The principle of these decisions and others to the same effect are entirely consistent with the rule declared in *Rose vs. Himley* (4 Cranch, 292), and its kindred cases.

The belligerent right to neutral conduct springs from the provisions of the stated law, and does not need to await any formal concession by the political branch of the government. No recognition of belligerence was ever accorded to the South American republics, but they were at all times treated on equal terms with Spain in the courts. Whether there is belligerence is matter of fact upon which the court when administering law will bear evidence. In *Yriessari vs. Clement* (2 Car. & Payne 223) it was decided that "if a foreign state is recognized by this country it is not necessary to support an allegation which describes it as a state to prove that it is in fact an existing state; but if it be not so recognized then such proof becomes necessary and may be admitted." "If a body of persons assemble together to protect themselves, and support their own independence, and make laws, and have courts of justice, that is evidence of their being a state, and it makes no difference whether they formerly belonged to another country or not if they do not continue to acknowledge it and are in possession of a force sufficient to support themselves in opposition to it."

These views are submitted in aid of Mr. Morales Lemus's application to you as the prosecuting officer of the Government to libel the thirty Spanish gunboats now lying in this city and alleged to have been built and fitted out within the limits of the United States with the intent that they should be employed to cruise and commit hostilities against the citizens, subjects, and property of the district and people now under the *de facto* Government of the Republic of Cuba. I am, sir, very respectfully yours,

GROSVENOR P. LOWREY.

AFFIDAVIT OF ALFARO.

United States of America, Southern District of New York, ss.

Ignacio Alfaro being duly sworn deposes and says: I am a resident of the City of New York, and now domiciled at No. 34 East Twelfth street, in said city. I know of my own knowledge, and do declare to be true, that the colony or district known as the Island of Cuba, and the people thereof are now at war with the Government of Spain; and that war is, and was, at the time hereinafter mentioned, being waged by said Government of Spain against the colony, district and people aforesaid, and the citizens, subjects and people thereof; and I do further declare that the United States are now, and were, at all the times hereinafter mentioned, at peace with said colony, district and people.

Upon my information and belief, I declare that on or about the 1st day of June, 1869, the Government of Spain, by means of certain of its officers and agents, whose names are unknown to me, entered into contracts in writing with one Cornelius Delamater, an American citizen, residing in the City of New York, and others, his partners in business, whereby the said Government employed the said Delamater and his said partners to build and fit out arm, and the said Delamater agreed to build, fit out and arm, under the direction and control of Rafael Aragon, an officer in the navy of said Government of Spain, thirty steamships, vessels or gunboats, to be employed in the service of said Government of Spain in cruising and committing hostilities against the subjects, citizens and property of said colony, district and people. Some of said vessels have been built by said Delamater according to said contract, in the City of New York, and some have been built in the State of Connecticut by persons employed by him, and all of the said gunboats, thirty in number, and known and called by numbers from one to thirty, have been fitted out and armed, and are now lying at the foot of Thirteenth street, in the City of New York, and are about to be delivered over to the agents of the Government of Spain, to depart from said district to cruise and commit hostilities as aforesaid. The said Government of Spain is now, and at all the times herein mentioned, has been at war with a certain foreign state, with which the United States are now, and at all such times have been at peace, to wit, the Republic of Peru; and I am informed and believe that the said gunboats were contracted for, built, fitted and armed with the intent that they should also be employed in the service of the Government of Spain, to cruise and commit hostilities

against the subjects, citizens and property of said Republic of Peru. The people of the district or colony known as the Island of Cuba have heretofore, to wit, about the 10th of October, 1868, thrown off the Government of Spain, organized themselves into a civil government, and have elected representatives and proclaimed laws, and performed all the functions of civil government, and exercised exclusive jurisdiction and control throughout the greater part of the Island of Cuba, to wit, the district extending from Santiago de Cuba, on the Caribbean Sea, to Baracoa, on the Atlantic Ocean, and from Sagua de Cienfuegos on the Caribbean Sea, and thence to Santiago de Cuba. They have also organized armies according to the rule and customs of civilized nations, to repel the assaults made by the Government of Spain upon the citizens, subjects and property of said colony and district, and the people thereof, and have, by such armies, taken possession of the large district aforesaid, and excluded therefrom all persons exercising or claiming to exercise authority under the said Government of Spain. The Government so as aforesaid organized, has purchased vessels and other property, and now owns and holds the same, and its citizens and subjects, and the citizens and subjects of the colony and district governed and controlled by it, have and hold property upon the high seas and in the bays and harbors of the Island of Cuba, which is subject to assault and destruction by the ships and subjects of Spain. The said vessels or gunboats are, as I am informed and believe, intended to be employed in and about the coasts and harbors of the Republic of Peru, and of the Island of Cuba, and a large quantity of guns and munitions of war, intended for the further armament of the said thirty vessels, and for which the said vessels have been fitted and prepared within the limits of the United States were, about the 12th day of October, 1869, sent from this city to Havana, a city in the Island of Cuba, now under control of the armed forces of the Government of Spain, on board a vessel known as the *Euterpe*, and that said guns and munitions are now at Havana, awaiting the arrival of the said gunboats.

(Signed)

IGNACIO ALFARO.

Sworn to before me this 23d day of November, A. D. 1869.

GEO. F. BARR, U. S. Commissioner.

AFFIDAVIT OF CISNEROS.

State of New York, City and County of New York, ss.

Francis Xavier Cisneros, being duly sworn, says: I am a native of Cuba, having been born at Santiago de Cuba, and for the larger part of the last fifteen years, and until recently, have been a resident of Havana. I am living for the present in the City of New York.

I left New York for Cuba in May of this year, and I arrived there about the 11th day of that month. Between the time of my arrival and about the 1st of August last, I was constantly travelling in the island, and especially traversed that part of it which lies between Santi Espiritu, about the central portion of the island, and Santiago de Cuba, near the eastern extremity, a distance of about 350 miles.

This district is a portion only of the territory which is occupied and controlled by the revolutionists, and which covers more than two-thirds of the area of the island. This republican or revolutionist territory is bounded by lines extending from Santiago de Cuba, on the Caribbean Sea, near the eastern end of the island, to Baracoa, on the Atlantic Ocean; from Baracoa to Sagua la Grande along the northern coast; then across the island to the Bay of Bays, on the Caribbean Sea, and thence along the southern coast to Santiago de Cuba. The total extent of the island is about 30,000 square miles, of which the republican or revolutionist territory just described embraces about 24,000 square miles. This territory includes some wild tracts, but for the most part, is open, cultivated country. It embraces some of the larger towns of the island, and though these are still in the possession of the Spaniards, the open country about them, and of the district generally to which I have referred, is occupied and controlled by the republicans. It is their fixed policy for the present not to attempt to hold the towns, the occupation of them by the Spaniards compelling them to withdraw large bodies from the fighting force for garrison duty.

This district, also extending to the sea on both the northern and southern sides of the island, embraces many considerable ports to which the Cubans have free access, but having, as yet, no means of thoroughly fortifying these places, they have made no attempt to hold exclusive possession of them.

Within this district, between May and August, I visited almost all the military encampments of the revolutionists, about thirty in all. At some of the camps there were as many as 2,000 men, and at none less than 250. To the best of my judgment and belief there were in all these camps, in May, about 15,000 well-armed soldiers, and in August, when I left the island, there were, I should think, about 20,000. But, besides this force of regular soldiers in camps, the entire male population throughout the district which I have referred to, was organized as a voluntary military force, but being without arms, cannot be brought into actual military service. All this force of the revolutionists was under the command of Quesada, the general-in-chief, who was appointed by the Cuban Congress.

During my stay in the island there were frequent conflicts between the Spanish and Cuban forces, in many of which I participated. In the most important of those in which I took part, which occurred on the 18th of June at Calabazas, the Cuban forces numbered about 700. The Spaniards had attacked but were repelled and retreated. A few days before, a fight had taken place, in which, as I was then informed and believe, the Cubans numbered 1,500. Many other combats took place, with various results. The condition of the country was one of constant fighting between considerable forces, and, on the part of the Cubans, all of the battles were conducted under the control of the commander-in-chief.

At the time of my visit to the island, the Cuban revolutionary party had already adopted a constitution embodying a republican form of government, guaranteeing the liberty of the press, of religion and education, and abolishing slavery. It had also a completely-organized government, represented by a president and congress and secretaries of state, war, treasury and interior, and other officers and bodies. The congress was composed of eighteen delegates elected by the people from all parts of the island. It was, at the time to which I refer, in session, and I attended many of its meetings. The elections for governors of the States took place during my stay on the island, and were participated in by all the inhabitants of the district described by me, except of the towns garrisoned by the Spaniards.

The capital of the republican government was at Sibarien, a town situated in the interior in an open plain, on the great central highway of the island, and approached by good roads from all directions.

The island had then also been divided by the congress into four States, namely: Oriente, Camaguy, Las Villas, Occidente. Governors of each of these States had been elected by their inhabitants, and they had assumed and were administering their offices. The government had also established and maintained regular postal service throughout all its territory; had created courts and appointed judges and sheriffs or prefects. The local judges had opened and were holding their courts. The Supreme Court of the State was not yet convened. The court administered laws which had been enacted by the Cuban Congress, and which were universally recognized and enforced throughout the territory of the Cuban government which I have described.

F. X. CISNEROS.

Sworn and subscribed to this 25th day of November, 1869, before me,

W. N. GODDARD, Notary Public, county of New York.

A GENERAL Court-martial is constituted to assemble at Camp Grant, A. T., on the 4th day of January, 1870. Detail: Lieutenant-Colonel George W. Wallace, Twelfth Infantry; Major James H. Nelson, paymaster U. S. Army; Major John Green, First Cavalry, brevet lieutenant-colonel U. S. Army; Captain James C. Hunt, First Cavalry, brevet lieutenant-colonel U. S. Army; Captain W. McC. Netterville, Twenty-first Infantry; First Lieutenant Moses Harris, First Cavalry, brevet captain U. S. Army; Second Lieutenant James Bassell, Second Artillery; Second Lieutenant James Calhoun, Twenty-first Infantry. Brevet Lieutenant-Colonel E. W. Stone, first lieutenant U. S. Army, is detailed as judge-advocate.

THE rapid increase of the Army pension list is forcibly shown in the report of Treasurer Spinner, just completed. The following are the actual payments for the past seven fiscal years: 1863, \$932,886 29; 1864, \$4,902,651 01; 1865, \$918,187 02; 1866, \$13,483,665 19; 1867, \$10,448,088 60; 1868, \$23,997,499 14; 1869, \$28,628,650 47.

THE INSURRECTION IN DALMATIA.

In one of its justly-celebrated military political letters, the *Cologne Gazette* has lately given a full description of the Bocche di Cattaro and the neighboring districts, where the rebellion against the Austrian Government is now raging, from which we take the following passage.

"The Bocche di Cattaro, indeed the whole of Dalmatia with the exception of a few ports and valleys, is one of the poorest and most uncultivated countries in Europe. High and barren mountains, utterly void of vegetation, and torn and rugged chalk cliffs cover the whole country, and it is only in the depths of the narrow valleys that any signs of human industry are to be found. There are hardly any roads in all South Dalmatia, and in the Bocche di Cattaro scarcely a path exists on which five soldiers can march abreast. The country is too poor to supply the army with the most common necessities of life. The sparse and widely-scattered population live in stone huts, and raise just enough maize, beans, onions and garlic to supply their own immediate wants. Their flocks of goats and sheep are their only riches, and these, at the first sign of the enemy's approach, will be driven into Montenegro or some other place of safety. Hence the troops must depend on their own supplies alone, and these will have to be transported over rugged mountain ways on the backs of mules or on small sledge-like carts.

"Everything that the soldiers in the Bocche require must be brought by water from Trieste or Fiume, to Cattaro or Budua. Now, the Austrian navy possesses a large number of gun-boats and transport-vessels and these will facilitate the carriage of supplies if the storms common in those seas late in the autumn permit them to do so. The entrance to the narrow bay on which Cattaro lies is very dangerous in rough weather, and the open roads of the little port of Budua, render the discharge of provisions very difficult when the waves are high. Should violent storms rage in the Adriatic, a circumstance by no means uncommon at this season of the year, it may be impossible to land supplies at either of these points for weeks together. Hence the concentration of large bodies of troops in the neighborhood is all but impracticable. At any rate the soldiers will suffer pitifully from the cold. They will always have to sleep in the open air, as no quarters are to be found in the whole country except in the small towns along the coast. Fuel, too, is rare, as nothing but a few bushes grow on the mountain sides, and late in autumn the wind rages in bitter violence on the high table-lands, while the rocky paths are often closed for weeks by snow-drifts." These circumstances render the inhabitants of the Bocche no despicable enemies, though they scarcely number 1,200 fighting men.

If the insurrection continues, the rebels will find support enough in the neighboring countries, "for so great is the hatred of Austria in those parts that to shoot a soldier and still more an officer of the Imperial army is there universally considered a good action." The country people of the whole province are uncivilized, revengeful, inclined to robbery and disinclined to work of every kind, but frugal to a degree of which Germans can form no conception, hardy, excellent marksmen, and of great endurance in marching and climbing mountains. When they are seized with enthusiasm, or on a raid, they fear no dangers, and show the wildest scorn of death. As soldiers, however, they are useless; they seek every opportunity of deserting, and cannot accustom themselves to the uniform, the discipline, or the regulations of the army. Of the prisoners made by Prussia in 1866, a disproportionately large number were inhabitants of Dalmatia, none of whom showed any affection for the service, and many spoke of it in very bitter terms. The inhabitants of the coastal districts are much more attached to the Government than their inland neighbors, and furnish the best sailors in the Austrian navy.

In the present rebellion, the Imperial Government is reaping the harvest of a long misrule. "Till 1866 they did nothing but build a few harbors on the coast and endeavor to raise as heavy taxes and to levy as many men from the rest of the country as possible. Dalmatia was often used as a place of punishment for officials, who looked on the desolate and inhospitable province as a place of exile which could excite no interest and inspire no hope but that of making money and leaving it as soon as might be. Rarely did an official go there who was not obliged to do so, and still more rarely did he endeavor to promote the prosperity of the district. The Imperial captains, who possessed almost despotic powers, were frequently distinguished by their brutality, and delighted in insulting a people whose language they did not understand, by mocking their ancient customs and setting at naught their national prejudices. Can we wonder at the hatred they inspired?

"Some Austrian newspapers have not been ashamed to assert that this insurrection has been fed with Prussian money. A report so absurd, or rather so impudently false, need not be refuted. We also believe the supposition that Russian agents and ducats play a part in it to be entirely unfounded. Russia has no wish to wage war with Austria at present, and we believe this rebellion, which must be attributed to arrogance and want of tact on the part of the Imperial officials, was a disagreeable surprise to the statesmen of St. Petersburg. No state matures its plans more slowly or with greater care, and years may pass before Russia believes the moment has come for calling the Panslavistic idea into life. When that time has arrived the struggle will not commence in the Bocche di Cattaro alone.

"As much has been said of the forts Dranjalica, Zavalla, Castel Lastra, Starjewich, Kotzma, Spiridion, etc., we may remark that all these stations on the frontiers of Bocche toward Albania and Zernagora consist of massive stone towers, surrounded by a wall and sometimes by palisades. They are armed with from two to four small cannon, and cannot contain a garrison of more than 100 men. In times of peace they are usually occupied by eight or ten soldiers of an artillery regiment with one sergeant, and from forty to fifty sharpshooters with one or two officers. These towers all lie at a

height of from 2,000 to 3,000 feet, among bare and rugged chalk cliffs with scarcely a trace of vegetation, and can only be reached by narrow mountain paths. Hence all the provisions they require must be brought from Cattaro or Budua on the backs of beasts of burden. Even in quiet times the hatred of the inhabitants is so great that neither man nor officer can venture forth alone without running the risk of being shot down by an enemy concealed among the rocks. If an officer wishes to take a walk he must always be accompanied by an escort of three or four sharpshooters with loaded rifles. These forts, or rather towers, lie at two, three, or four hours' distance from each other, and patrols of 10 to 15 men pass daily between them, to prevent the raids of the Albanian banditti, and to hold in check the hostile population."

FOREIGN MATTERS.

THE Russian newspapers announce that experiments will shortly be made on the Neva with a new invention for propelling ships without using either paddles or screws. The author of this invention is M. Liwczak, an Austrian by birth, who some time ago invented a flying machine propelled by steam, and subsequently became the editor of a Panslavist paper published at Vienna.

SOME interesting experiments have been carried out at Portsmouth, England, for testing the relative effects of gunpowder and gun-cotton under equal and unequal conditions, and for ascertaining the comparative action of the regular-service fuse used in firing mines, and of the new detonating fuse invented by Abel, the chemist to the War Department. The gun-cotton was in most instances used in the forms of discs and cylinders, and, when placed in proper position, gave excellent results; but it appears by slight carelessness the greater portion of the advantage is lost.

THE artillery experiments at Finspong, in Sweden, have been completed, and the new 11½-inch gun, which is made entirely of Swedish iron, has met with general approval, both among the Swedish and Danish artillerists. It was fired from a distance of 580 feet at a target made of six plates of iron, each 2 inches thick, and backed with strong wooden beams. About 20 yards behind it was a wooden target 2 feet thick, leaning against an embankment of gravel. The conical projectile of the gun, weighing 150 pounds, pierced both targets and buried itself to a depth of 8 feet in the embankment.

DRUNKENNESS in the British Army in India, is to be put down with a strong hand. Even the allowance of beer is to be limited in future to one quart per day from the canteen. The only exceptions are for the players in cricket matches and other amusements, who, provided the sanction of the commanding officer is obtained, may be indulged with an extra pint. The *Englishman* asks, with a good deal of pertinence, "Have the authorities considered that in thus 'robbing the poor man of his beer' they will drive him to consume much more injurious stuff in the shape of country liquor, for if a soldier is determined to go on the spree, he will obtain drink in spite of all the regulations ever printed?"

A METHOD of carrying out Captain Ericsson's idea of utilizing the sun's heat has been described by M. Delaurier in *Les Mondes* (Oct. 21st), in a paper which is thus abstracted by the *Chemical News*:—The author proposes, for this purpose, a truncated cone open at both ends, and lined inside with polished silver, the sun's rays being admitted by the larger opening. Since the angle of reflection is equal to the angle of incidence, all direct or reflected rays will be united at the narrow end of the cone. It is clear that, the greater the length of the cone, the less the opening of its top need be, and the greater will be the concentration of heat. The author's paper, to which a woodcut is added, enters into a discussion on the advantage of this contrivance above the use of lenses and mirrors; and the author very enthusiastically surmises that the heat of the sun's rays may be so concentrated as to serve instead of the combustion of fuel for various purposes, especially in countries where, as in Algeria, the heat and splendor of the sun is more permanently felt.

THE *Pall Mall Gazette* observes that, since the beginning of the Second Empire in France, there has been on the average an alteration every two years in military uniform. At one time the skirts of the tunic were lengthened, at another they were shortened; next the color of the facings was changed, after that came the turn of the epaulettes; and one day, soon after the Italian War, the triumphant idea occurred to somebody of cutting off the skirts of the infantry altogether. Marshal Niel, however, had a weakness for skirts, and he was no sooner in office than he began to distribute skirted tunics to the infantry, as also new overcoats, new epaulettes, and ugly red shakos in place of the leather ones which the soldiers loved. Had he lived longer it was his intention to put the cavalry into tunics, and to abolish those smart lancer, cuirassier, and hussar uniforms which are the pride of the French army. General Leboeuf came in time to prevent this, and for the last two months he has been quietly amending his predecessor's work according to his own notions of the beautiful. The red shakos are to be discarded, the new tunics are to be changed again, the leather gaiters which the late Marshal had proscribed are to be adopted once more, and the bands, which Marshal Niel had suppressed in cavalry regiments as an unnecessary expense, are to be reformed. We trust that sooner or later the perfection aimed at will be reached.

A SUIT in which the Prince of Satsuma, one of the most powerful Daimios of Japan, was the defendant, has just been decided before the Imperial Court of Paris. During the late civil war in that country, where several of the most powerful chiefs combined against the Tycoon, for the purpose of restoring the authority of the Mikado, each of the parties obtained improved firearms from Europe, and among others the prince in question, who commissioned Count de Montblanc, an officer of the

French navy, and Iwashita, Sagiyemouth, a Japanese sent to France for the purpose, to make purchases of 5,000 Chassepot rifles and four batteries of artillery. In March, 1867, the two agents of the prince employed in his name, M. Lissignol, a French engineer, to inspect the delivery of the arms and to perform other missions, but in the following August informed him that his aid was no longer required, and called on him to give an account of the sum of 14,832 francs, which he had received, at the same time offering him 4,000 francs as payment for his services. M. Lissignol then put forward a claim for 25,502 francs, for different matters, including plans for the reconstruction of the Japanese navy, etc., and brought an action before the civil court to obtain payment. The evidence, however, showed that he had never received instructions to prepare any such project, and the judges, considering that the 4,000 francs was sufficient remuneration for what he had done, non-suited him. The plaintiff then appealed to the Imperial Court, which has now confirmed the former judgment.

A SINGULAR ESCAPE.

A CORRESPONDENT of the *Washington Star*, writing from Fort Fetterman, November 11th, tells the following:

On Thursday last, three men—McKenna, McAllister, and Wentworth—of Company K, Second Cavalry, went out from this post, but night overtaking them near the entrance to La Prolle Canon, fifteen miles from here, they turned into a secluded glen, stationed one of their number to watch, and the other two made down their beds, and went to sleep side by side. About midnight—it being cold—the watchman made a fire. Fatal mistake! Soon after this he laid down with his comrades, doubtless not intending to go to sleep. One of his comrades (Wentworth), awakening for a moment, warned him of his imprudence, but received an assurance that all was well, and again fell asleep. It is probable that the sentinel did the same. A few minutes afterward a terrific discharge of firearms from every side of the sleepers, in such close proximity that the powder burned their faces, proved the folly of their watcher's feeling of security. One of the men, McKenna, did not move, a ball had pierced his temple, another his heart, and four had entered his breast. McAllister sprang up with a single exclamation and fell back dead, pierced by half a dozen bullets. Wentworth, who was sleeping between the two, was not scratched.

Being a man of great nerve and much experience with the Indians, his plans were instantly matured, and as quickly executed. Seizing his pistol as he slipped from the side of his dead comrades, he shot the Indian he confronted as he rose; jumped over his prostrate body—knocked down the next in his path with the butt of his weapon—dodged the rest—sprang in among the ponies, from which the savages had dismounted, and running through the herd, gained the creek, and, under cover of its friendly bushes, escaped his pursuers, and came barefooted over the ragged rocks and prickly pears to the post, where he arrived about 6 o'clock, in a condition to move the heart of the most unfeeling. The flesh of his heels and the balls of his feet were worn to the bone, and on their raw surface he had made the most of his terrible march for life.

On receipt of the information, the company instantly proceeded to the place, and found the bodies as he had described, but, strange to say, neither scalped nor mutilated. Stranger still, their guns, ammunition, overcoats, saddle and bed blankets were all there undisturbed. One of their horses had been shot and left, the other three were taken off by the red devils. Captain Egan was accompanied by Black Coal and another Arapahoe of Medicine Man's band, who assisted him materially in deciphering the trail and reading the signs of the war party. Jose Meravell, the post guide, was also of the party, and is well versed in such matters. He and Black Coal agree that the fact of the Indians not taking the guns and other property is attributable to their having a quarrel among themselves over the division of the spoils, which may have been settled by the chief having them leave everything there. They estimate the force at about sixty, and say all the indications show them to have been Sioux, and probably of Red Cloud's band.

AMONG the many curious stories told about the old frigate *Constitution* is the following: On board the *Guerrriere*, when captured, was Lieutenant, afterward Admiral, Chads. Ill-luck put him on board the *Java*, when she was crippled and sunk. Years afterward, Lieutenant Chads, having become a captain or admiral, found himself lying at anchor alongside of his old enemy, in the harbor of Toulon, Commodore Patterson in command. By some great oversight, in firing a salute the guns of the *Constitution* were left shotted, and the missiles were sent wildly among the peaceful shipping—among others, reaching the English flag-ship, and killing several. Tradition says that Admiral Chads rushed on deck, and rather impetuously remarked, "D— that old ship, I believe she will never stop firing at me!"

THE *Washington Republican* reports that a singular case of aberration of mind has been brought to the attention of the board of surgeons of the United States Army. One of the profession, who for many years has been on active duty, and distinguished for his ability and fidelity, has of late accused officers of high rank of attempting to poison him. At first he mistrusted these poisons were mixed with his food, and thereupon commenced to cook his own victuals. He next suspected the deadly ingredients were mixed with his bread, and finally suspected poisonous exhalations were in his pillow or on his clothes. The officer has been retired and placed under proper treatment, but has in his own defense forwarded to the War Department a report of forty pages, carefully written, and thoroughly reviewing his past services. The document is one evincing great ability, but betrays the unfortunate condition of the writer in his accusations against Army officers.

THE NATIONAL GUARD.

EVACUATION DAY PARADE.

On the 25th ult. the First division, in accordance with time-honored custom, paraded in celebration of the eighty-sixth anniversary of the evacuation of New York City by the British troops. This parade is usually the last or fall exhibit of the general strength and appearance of our citizen soldiery; but this year many supposed that the parade of the division on the 6th of October last would be considered sufficient, and the Evacuation Day parade set aside. But they were disappointed; the orders for the parade appeared promptly, and were executed efficiently. And this was well. Evacuation Day would soon be forgotten if it were not for this parade.

The day was unusually fine for the season, and brought out quite full ranks. The troops assembled in close column of companies, the heads of the columns resting on Fourth avenue in the following order: The First brigade Infantry on East Nineteenth street; the Second brigade Infantry on East Eighteenth street; the Third brigade Infantry on East Seventeenth street; the Fourth brigade Infantry on East Sixteenth street; the First brigade Cavalry on East Fifteenth street. Brigade commanders reported to the division chief of staff, Colonel Fowler, at the Washington Statue, as soon as their respective commands were formed. Unfortunately Colonel Fowler was compelled to receive these reports dismounted, his horse being so unmanageable that he had to be sent back to the stable. The line of march was, in part, identical with that followed by the American troops when entering the city to resume possession in 1783, to wit: Down Fourth avenue to the Bowery, down Bowery to Canal, through Canal to Broadway, up Broadway to Fourteenth street, through Fourteenth street to Fourth avenue, up Fourth avenue to Twenty-third street, through Twenty-third street to Fifth avenue, and down Fifth avenue to Fourteenth street. At 2 o'clock almost precisely the column began to move in the following order:

Platoons of Metropolitan Policemen.

Major-General Alexander Shaler and staff.

FIRST BRIGADE.

Brigadier-General Wm. G. Ward, commanding, and staff. Second regiment, Major J. O. Shaughnessy, five commands of eight files, band and drum corps. Twelfth regiment, Colonel John Ward and staff, ten commands of eleven files, band and drum corps. Seventy-first regiment, Colonel Harry Rockafellar and staff, nine commands of eleven files, band and drum corps.

SECOND BRIGADE.

Brigadier-General Louis Burger, commanding, and staff. Fifth regiment, Brevet Brigadier-General and Colonel J. E. Bendix and staff, ten commands of fourteen files, band and drum corps. Sixth regiment, Colonel Joel W. Mason and staff, eight commands of eleven files, band and drum corps. Eighty-fourth regiment, Colonel F. A. Conkling and staff, eight commands of twelve files, band and drum corps. Ninety-sixth regiment, Lieutenant-Colonel Stanf, nine commands of fourteen files, band and drum corps. First regiment Artillery (dismounted), Lieutenant-Colonel Diehl, nine commands of fourteen files, band.

ELEVENTH BRIGADE, SECOND DIVISION.

Twenty-third regiment, Colonel R. C. Ward and staff, eight commands of eleven files, band and drum corps. Thirty-second battalion, Major E. L. Hoeh and staff, four commands of eleven files, band and drum corps. Forty-seventh regiment, Colonel David E. Austin and staff, eight commands of nine files, band and drum corps. Fifty-sixth regiment, Colonel H. T. Chapman and staff, eight commands of eight files, band and drum corps. Howitzer Battery, Captain Ira Beebe, four pieces (12-pounders), forty men, band.

THIRD BRIGADE.

Brigadier-General J. M. Varian, commanding, and staff. First regiment, Colonel John Perley and staff, eight commands of twelve files, band and drum corps. Seventh regiment, Colonel Emmons Clark and staff, ten commands of eighteen files, band and drum corps. Eighth regiment, Colonel G. D. Scott and staff, ten commands of twelve files, band and drum corps. Ninth regiment, Brevet Brigadier-General and Colonel W. H. Wilcox and staff, eight commands of eleven files, band. Thirty-seventh regiment Lieutenant-Colonel G. M. Dusenbury, six commands of twelve files, band and drum corps. Fifty-fifth regiment, Colonel Wm. B. Allen and staff, nine commands of fourteen files, band and drum corps.

FOURTH BRIGADE.

Acting Brigadier-General and Colonel Kavanagh commanding and staff. Fourth regiment, Brevet Brigadier-General and Colonel Wm. De Lacy and staff, six commands of eight files, band and drum corps. Eleventh regiment, Colonel H. Lux and staff, ten commands of fourteen files, band and drum corps. Twenty-second regiment, Colonel J. Porter and staff, eight commands of sixteen files, band and drum corps. Sixty-ninth regiment, Lieutenant-Colonel Hargrave, eight commands of twelve files, band and drum corps. Seventy-ninth regiment, Colonel Shaw and staff, six commands of eight files, band and drum corps.

FIRST BRIGADE, CAVALRY.

Brigadier-General Brooke Postley, commanding, and staff. Squadron "Washington Grays," Major E. H. Kent and staff, forty strong.

First regiment, Colonel Henry Brinker and staff, about 325 strong. Third regiment, Colonel John H. Budke and staff, about 350 strong.

The march was unusually long, and delayed by innumerable halts, so that the whole route was not traversed in much less than three hours time.

THE REVIEW.

At the northwestern portion of Fifth avenue and Fourteenth street a stand was erected, similar to that used on the occasion of the review by the Governor on the 6th of October last. This stand was draped with the usual amount of bunting, and prominent in its rear was the following inscription: "1783. Evacuation Day. The Metropolis salutes with pride her citizen-soldiery." His Honor Mayor A. Oakley Hall received the review, and the stand was well filled with many distinguished personages. At 4 o'clock the head of the column reached the reviewing stand. It was led by Major-General Shaler and staff, who, as usual, made a handsome show, all saluting simultaneously and well.

FIRST BRIGADE,

Brigadier-General Ward commanding, looked well, although the staff, six in number, failed to preserve proper alignment. The salutes were fair.

Second regiment made an improved appearance as regards uniforms, the men being all uniformed in gray, the effect not marred by a mixture of blue and gray colors. The band marched badly. The salutes of the officers were generally poor—that of the officer commanding First company in line particularly so. The alignment of the Second company in line was poor. Non-commissioned staff saluted. The regiment took up double time too soon.

Twelfth regiment looked exceedingly well; company distances very fair; also, alignment. It was the general remark among those on the stand that the Twelfth, as regards general discipline, stood all. All it now requires is a new uniform; the present uniform

looks well when the regiment is in a body, but rather poor otherwise. But the spring parade will see the Twelfth in its new dress. The drum corps paraded without a drum-major, which gave it rather an unusual appearance. The drummers were well posted, and the entire front rank turned out with the band in good style, even without the aid of a leader. The drum corps paraded the whole route in the rear of the band. The band marched poorly. The salutes of the officers were very fine—that of the captain of the color company being an exception.

Seventy-first regiment, as usual, did itself credit, attracting general attention by its steadiness, proper distance, and correct alignments. The salutes of the officers were remarkably good, that of the officer commanding left company being the best. The lieutenant-colonel failed to preserve his record for good saluting on this occasion. The uniforms of the men showed to advantage.

SECOND BRIGADE,

Brigadier-General Burger commanding, looked creditably. The brigade staff saluted badly, which, under the circumstances (the entire staff went by on a full trot), was to be expected. This violence is a peculiar feature of this staff, and should be corrected.

Fifth regiment made a very solid appearance. The band and drum corps appeared to unusual advantage. The salutes of the officers, with few exceptions, were not up to the mark, and not equal to the inspection review. The captain of the color company saluted well. The regiment was not out with its usual strength, but nevertheless deserved credit.

Sixth Regiment.—The band was rather feeble in its musical powers, and the marching of the drum corps was poor. Colonel Mason, the regiment's commandant, made a correct and very graceful salute. One man in the rear rank of the left company in line wore an overcoat. The salutes of the line officers were hardly fair. Nevertheless, as a whole, the regiment exhibited improvement in marching and discipline.

Eighty-fourth regiment paraded with rather a slim regimental staff, whose salutes were poor. The appearance of the regiment was not as good as usual, both as regards strength and marching. The white cross-belts added much to the effect of the new uniforms. The salutes were, as a whole, fair; but those of the second lieutenant of the color company and captain of the left company were exceedingly poor.

Ninety-sixth regiment has fallen off somewhat in numbers, but its appearance in tasteful uniforms, on this occasion, was remarkably good. The officers' salutes were, as always, bad; and those of the commandants of the Third and Fourth companies in line were especially wretched.

First regiment Artillery paraded, as usual, dismounted, and looked well. The band, misunderstanding the orders from the division commander, ceased to play before arriving at the reviewing stand, and even after passing. The regiment appears better dismounted than otherwise, and we will soon forget it ever had guns or horses. It very improperly paraded with sabres sheathed. The captain of color company kept head to front in saluting.

ELEVENTH BRIGADE.

This fine brigade, under the command of Brigadier-General Mese- role, though attached to the Second division, paraded with the First division, by invitation of Major General Shaler. It formed on Second avenue, right on Sixteenth street, and afterward took its position in the column on the left of the Third brigade. It was the first occasion of the brigade, as a whole, parading outside of its own precincts, though portions of it have paraded several times with the First division. Its appearance in its unvarying gray uniforms was very fine, and the praise it received was well deserved. Brigadier-General Mese- role and staff, in full-dress and with handsome chapeaux, looked exceedingly well; their salutes were excellent.

Twenty-third regiment made a handsome show in full-dress uniforms. The full regimental band and drum corps, with Drum-Major Strube at its head, bore itself admirably. The music of the band would be hard to excel, but the uniforms of its members contrasted badly with the elegant full-dress of the members of the regiment. The salutes of the officers were remarkably good. The non-commissioned staff saluted (this custom has been abolished in the First division), and the commandant of the regiment turned out to the left after passing in review. We presume this movement was to gain a point of view from which to admire his fine command, of which he may well be proud. The drum corps turned out with the band after passing.

Thirty-second battalion made a good appearance. The drum corps preceded the band, and turned out with it. Many of the officers need instruction in the sword exercise. The sergeant-major saluted, and the second lieutenant of the left company did not look at the reviewing stand in saluting. This battalion is young, but is in very good condition, and constantly improving in discipline. It lacks a good armory, which it will soon get.

Forty-seventh regiment paraded past the reviewing stand division front—a specialty with this command—and well done. The drum-major made a good salute, but the drum corps led the band and turned out with the band. This band, by the way, was at one time attached to the Fifth regiment, and Wannamacher, we see, is still its leader. The salutes of the officers were hardly correct in every instance; the non-commissioned staff also saluted. The regiment, as a whole, looked and marched well, and made a showy turn-out in its full-dress uniforms of handsome pattern.

Fifty-sixth regiment turned out decidedly slim, and did not compare favorably with its previous parades. It was also late in assuming its position in line, from some unaccountable reason. The salutes of the line officers were faulty in many particulars, and the staff officer on the right saluted *en tierce*. An officer of the second company, in the rear of the colors, paraded with trousers turned up at the bottoms.

Howitzer Battery.—The commander paraded mounted, and the battery won general admiration by its neat appearance. This successful parade will lead to the immediate organization of a similar battery in the First division. The band was not of the best character, but it answered the purpose.

THIRD BRIGADE.

Brigadier-General Varian was at the head of the brigade, we presume for the last time. His staff was small on account of recent resignations.

First regiment made an improved appearance in its new uniforms; its marching, alignments and distances excellent; and salutes of officers, as a rule, good. The drum corps need new uniforms. The captain of second company in line saluted *en tierce*; the captain of the color company saluted badly.

Seventh regiment paraded with overcoat, which may have had the effect of hiding the brilliant uniforms, but not the discipline or usual steadiness of the command. Company after company passed, every man of which preserved a steadiness not equalled by any other command in the column. The drum corps and band were in

good time. The salutes were generally good—that of the officer commanding the sixth company in line being the worst in the regiment, and that of the officer commanding the first company in the rear of the colors, the best of the day.

Eighth regiment made a good show, and, as usual, elicited applause. The surgeon saluted *en tierce*, and the second lieutenant of the Fifth company in line did not look at the party reviewing.

Ninth regiment, in handsome uniforms, won deserved admiration. The ranks were generally well closed up, and the marching and distances good; salutes of officers fair; that of the commandant of the second company in line poor; that of the second in rear of colors good, and that of second lieutenant of the company on the left very good.

Thirty-seventh regiment begins to show improvement, and we hope will continue to do so, although the command is still weak in numbers. The men paraded in overcoats, and the first company in line made the best show, as regards discipline. The band and drum corps looked well, and turned out in proper style, but double time was taken up at about ten paces.

Fifty-fifth regiment looked well in its handsome gray uniform, and the marching and distances very fair. Colonel Allen, its commander, is entitled to much credit for the present fine condition of the Garde Lafayette. The salutes of the line officers were uniformly bad, but we noticed worse in many other regiments in line. The band and drum corps looked well in new uniforms.

FOURTH BRIGADE.

This brigade, under command of Acting Brigadier-General Cavanaugh, made, generally speaking, a good show. The brigade staff have nearly all gone since the resignation of General Aspinwall.

Fourth regiment paraded without a drum-major; consequently a portion of the drum corps did not turn out for the ruffle when the colors saluted. The salutes of the officers were generally poor. The new uniforms of the men were neat, and spectators had a fine opportunity of contrasting them with the former slouchy Zouave uniforms of the members, as exhibited by the fifth company in line, which still retains them. This company might, in the words of the Inspector-General, "strain a point," and procure a new dress.

Eleventh Regiment.—We always admired this regiment in its former regulation hats, wearing which they have frequently been taken for regulars, on account of their appearance; but this hat was abolished some time since, and the regiment has adopted new uniforms and the full-dress hats. On this occasion it did not parade as strong as usual, which is rather unaccountable. The salutes of officers were only fair, and many exceedingly poor; the marching and company distance good; a portion of the drum corps failed to turn out to beat the ruffle for the colors; the colors dipped twice, and the salute was poorly made.

Twenty-second regiment made the handsomest show in line in its full-dress uniforms. We never saw the regiment appear to better advantage than at this review; and for general steadiness, excellence of marching, alignments and distances, it came next to the Seventh, if it did not equal it. The salutes were exceedingly fine; the commandant of the third company in line, excellent. The new regimental staff turned out in full force. The drum corps paraded in front of the band, and turned out with it.

Sixty-ninth regiment made a good show in its becoming uniforms, but its appearance was made somewhat irregular by the left company alone appearing in white cross-belts. The salutes of the officers were, as a rule, poor—the captain of the third company in line omitting to turn his head in saluting. The regiment took up the double time at about ten paces.

Seventy-ninth regiment paraded with thinned ranks; but, generally speaking, appeared well in its dark blue uniform. It is stated that abolishing its former dress of kilt, "kilt" the regiment, for it has never done as well since. In passing in review the band did not play until past the stand, nor did any portion of the drum corps turn out. The salutes were poor generally and particularly.

FIRST CAVALRY BRIGADE.

Brigadier-General Brooke Postley was in command of this brigade, and was accompanied by his staff in their usual gorgeous array of Hooker hats, high top boots and white buckskin trousers, making an imposing appearance. We are informed that it is intended to entirely reorganize this brigade, and place it on a better footing than heretofore. There certainly is abundant room for improvement.

Washington Gray Squadron.—Major Kent was again at the head of this organization. The members, in full-dress uniforms and helmets, were generally well mounted, and the appearance of the squadron was excellent. Major Kent made a fine salute.

First regiment turned out with its usual strength and effect. The intervals were too great, and the commandants failed to preserve the proper paces from their commands. One of the non-commissioned staff saluted after the style of a commissioned officer.

Third regiment appeared well, but the same mistake was noticed as to the intervals. The salutes were generally poor; but that of the captain of the company on the left of colors, good. The band in passing played the popular air "Shoo Fly," which caused much merriment at the reviewing stand. These mounted musicians have considerable trouble in wheeling out at reviews, but they generally manage to get out of the way in time, though their manner of doing so is scarcely military.

GENERAL REMARKS.

The parade as a whole was hardly up to the usual standard of the division. Many of the German organizations paraded with very slim ranks, while the Seventh and Twenty-second, showed ranks quite full, making the best appearance of any regiments in line. In marching up Broadway, company front (18 files), the Seventh seemed cramped, which in several instances had the effect of giving the company fronts a curved and broken appearance. Men, to march well, should have elbow room, and there is just about room for 16 files from curb to curb on this main avenue.

SIXTH REGIMENT.—Lieutenant-Colonel Schwarz of this regiment, has tendered his resignation. He is an officer of long service in the National Guard. Other resignations and promotions are spoken of in this command.

FOURTEENTH REGIMENT.—On the 25th ult. the Brooklyn Institute was the scene of a pleasant social reunion of the members of Company E (Reynolds Guard). There was a large and select attendance. The Fourteenth is slowly recruiting, and we trust will soon reach its former good standing among the regiments of the division. We feel assured that the regiment will have the hearty support of the Fifth brigade commander and of the entire brigade, for Brooklyn must take especial pride in the veteran organization.

THIRTY-SEVENTH REGIMENT.—At an election in Company A of this regiment held at the regimental armory, John H. Youmans, first sergeant of Company B, was elected first lieutenant by a unanimous vote. Lieutenant Youmans is considered one of the

best-drilled men in the regiment in the manual of arms. On Friday evening, the 20th ult., Company B gave a drill for the benefit of the Orphan Fair held at its armory. The drill was excellent, and considered the best ever given by the company.

FIFTH BRIGADE.—Brigadier-General Thos. S. Dakin, in General Orders No. 4, announces that, having been elected and commissioned brigadier-general of the Fifth brigade, Second division N. G. S. N. Y., he resumes command.

The brigade commander, in General Orders No. 5, announces that until further orders, Monday evening of each week, from 8 to 10 o'clock, will be the regular hours for the transaction of business relating to this brigade. Commanding officers of regiments, and the commanding officer of the First battalion of Artillery, will direct their adjutants to be present each evening, as above announced. Each regimental and battalion organization should hold its weekly business meetings in time to forward to headquarters all papers and documents for transmittal on the evenings set apart for business, in order to receive prompt attention. All communications for brigade headquarters will be addressed to the acting assistant adjutant-general, and if deposited in Post Office box No. 334, on Monday of each week, before 6 o'clock P. M., or left at these headquarters (for the present at 357 Fulton street, Brooklyn) will receive attention the same evening. The attention of commanding officers is called to the provisions of General Orders No. 2, current series, from Headquarters Second division, the observance of which will materially lessen labor on the part of said officers, and delay in forwarding documents to headquarters above. The following staff appointments are announced for the information of this command: Major J. Lester Keay, surgeon; Major Wm. H. Thompson, engineer; Captain John L. Burleigh, aide-de-camp. Brevet Colonel Cullen, assistant adjutant-general, having tendered his resignation, in consequence of important business engagements, is relieved from duty pending the acceptance thereof. Captain Burleigh, aide-de-camp, late brevet colonel U. S. Volunteers, is assigned to duty as acting assistant adjutant-general.

The above order is in good shape, and attests the soldierly characteristics of its writer, who, with the aid of an efficient staff, will soon have the internal affairs of the brigade in good running order, and in marked contrast to their former condition. The interest in this brigade is daily increasing, and it only requires the needful support of its members to make it a formidable competitor to its younger rival—the Eleventh brigade.

THIRTEENTH REGIMENT.—On Wednesday evening, the 8th inst., an election will be held in this regiment to fill the vacancy of colonel and other vacancies in the field. We presume the regular order of promotion will be followed, according to the previous practice of the regiment. On the 21st of February a regimental reception will be given at the Brooklyn Academy of Music. Great efforts will be made to insure a brilliant gathering. The tickets will be \$5. Let us hope that they will be limited in number, so that the comfortable capacity of the Academy shall not be exceeded.

SEVENTY-FIRST REGIMENT.—In company orders Captain A. L. Webber announces that Company G will be regularly established at the regimental armory, Thirty-second street, near Sixth avenue, hereafter. Drills will be superintended alternately by the officers. The commandant takes this opportunity "to congratulate the members upon the removal to the new armory, as it is the first time in the history of the regiment that the companies have been quartered under one roof, and also, with his brother officers, their extreme gratification and satisfaction for the many evidences of existing good feeling and harmony that prevail throughout the command, and which characterize their actions on all occasions—an attribute which contributes so largely to the efficiency of any organization, and without which no permanent or real success can be attained or assured. A continuation of such feelings must keep the command in a state of efficiency second to none in the regiment, and for which consummation they ask your active and earnest co-operation." Corporal Robert A. Stevenson is appointed on the committee on the state of the regiment. Corporals Coe and Stevenson, and Privates Durand, Foyle, Hagedorn and Rockefellar are honorably mentioned, having attended all company parades, drills and meetings during last drill season. The record of a majority of the members is very good, and should be improved. The commandant urges upon the members the necessity of using renewed and increased exertions in the matter of recruiting.

On Tuesday evening last, the Court of Inquiry convened to investigate the serious charges recently made by the *Herald* against the members of this regiment. Some 250 members were summoned, most of whom appeared on this evening. We have not learned what facts were elicited, but it is stated that many of the men looked upon the affair as a good deal of a farce, and during the examination those outside the room amused themselves in various ways. Was the *Herald* reporter summoned? He would make the most important witness. A battalion drill of the regiment was held at the State arsenal on Wednesday evening last. Company G, Captain Webber commanding, will hold the first of the series of military entertainments to be given by the regiment, on the 10th inst., at the regimental armory, Thirty-second street.

FIRST REGIMENT, CAVALRY.—Commandants of squadrons will assemble their respective commands within the regimental armory, corner of Forty-seventh street and Broadway, for drill purposes: Troop A, on Monday, December 13th; Troop B, on Tuesday, December 14th; Troop C, on Wednesday, December 15th; Troop D, on Thursday, December 16th; Troop E, on Friday, December 17th; Troop F, on Monday, December 20th; Troop I, on Wednesday, December 22d; Troop K, on Thursday, December 23d, and Troop G, on Wednesday, December 1, 8, 15, and 22, 1869, and January 5, 1870, at 37 and 39 Bowery. An election has been ordered to fill vacancy in the office of major, on December 10th, at regimental armory. Adjutant Timmerman a candidate. Major Madden has appealed from election of Captain Fischer to the lieutenant-colonelcy. Appeal to be heard Friday, December 3d, at regimental armory, at 4 P. M.

FIFTH REGIMENT.—It is understood that an election will shortly be held in this regiment to fill the position of lieutenant-colonel, made vacant by the resignation of Lieutenant-Colonel Hillibrand. We learn that Major Smith, of this regiment, has been offered the position of judge-advocate on the staff of the Second Brigade, a position for which he is eminently qualified, and which he would fill with perfect satisfaction. His standing in the legal profession is high. It is stated that Quartermaster Allen, lately appointed on the staff of this regiment, begins to look up as a candidate for the position of lieutenant-colonel, and, in the case of the resignation of Major Smith, Captain Kreager, the commandant of Company C, will become a candidate for the vacant position. We learn that Captain Webber, commanding Company G, Seventy-first regiment, was, a short time since, prominently mentioned in connection with the lieu-

tenant colonelcy of this regiment. Brevet Brigadier-General Bendorf, the commandant, is rapidly improving the condition of his command both in discipline and its internal arrangements. He is very thorough in his instructions, and they will have a very beneficial effect on the regiment, which contains excellent material. On the evening of the 30th ult., Company D held its annual ball at the Germania Rooms, Bowery, which, like all the balls of this company, was a thorough success. The ball-room was well filled during the evening, and dancing was kept up until daybreak. Among the numerous guests were Brevet Brigadier-General Bendorf, Quartermaster Allen, Captain Kloeber, Kreager and others of the Fifth regiment. A squad of the members of Company F, of the Forty-seventh regiment, in full-dress uniforms, were also in attendance, and their uniforms attracted admiring attention. Among these were Captain Heathcote, Lieutenant Cornwell and Orderly Sergeant Tuttle. A German singing society filled up the interval between the dances with some fine singing. Much credit is due the officers of the company, Captain Hamann, First Lieutenant Wellenkamp and Second Lieutenant Lamb, for this successful ball. Company H gave a ball on Wednesday evening last, at the Germania Rooms, and Company B will hold one at the same place on the 13th inst.

SECOND DIVISION.—The following officers have been commissioned by the commander-in-chief, in the Second Division, National Guard of the State of New York, since July 31, 1869, and announced in the Gazette from the Adjutant-General's Office at Albany. Henry Heath to be assistant adjutant-general (colonel), September 20, 1869, original appointment:

Second Regiment of Cavalry.—Henry McManus to be first lieutenant, December 27, 1868, vice C. H. Williamson, resigned; David C. Bennett to be captain, September 4, 1869, vice G. S. Kouwenhoven, resigned; Abraham Ditmas to be first lieutenant, September 4, 1869, vice W. K. Voorhees, resigned; Nicholas L. Kapelyen to be second lieutenant, September 4, 1869, vice David C. Bennett, promoted.

Thirteenth Regiment of Infantry.—Henry M. Storrs, D. D., to be chaplain, May 26, 1868, vice Edward Taylor, resigned; Abram Van Nostrand to be quartermaster (first lieutenant), July 16, 1869, vice Charles P. Gulick, promoted to Second Division staff; Samuel Richards to be adjutant (first lieutenant) July 22, 1869, vice Clarence Stanley, resigned; Ava W. Powell to be captain, August 5, 1869, vice Philip H. Briggs, promoted; John Pedroncelli to be second lieutenant, August 5, 1869, vice David C. Bennett, promoted.

Fourteenth Regiment of Infantry.—William H. DeBevoise to be colonel, August 16, 1869, vice Edward B. Fowler, resigned; Henry T. Head to be lieutenant-colonel, August 16, 1869, vice Wm. H. DeBevoise, promoted; James McLeer to be major, August 16, 1869, vice Henry T. Head, promoted.

Twenty-third Regiment of Infantry.—John C. Goodridge to be an assistant surgeon (first lieutenant), September 23, 1869, vice G. H. H. Bennett, resigned; Norman Seaver, D. D., to be chaplain, September 27, 1869, vice F. J. H. Myers, resigned.

Twenty-eighth Regiment of Infantry.—Lambert Hundt to be first lieutenant, February 1, 1866, vice H. Thal, removed from State; Wm. W. Vanderhoof to be second lieutenant, December 6, 1866, vice Lambert Hundt, promoted; Henry Kinkel to be first lieutenant, December 12, 1867, vice Hitzberger, resigned; George Matern to be second lieutenant, December 12, 1867, vice Henry Kinkel, promoted; Philip Brenner to be second lieutenant, March 14, 1868, vice John Wagner, resigned; Wm. Zink to be first lieutenant, July 16, 1868, vice John Straus, resigned; August Koerner to be second lieutenant, August 5, 1869, vice C. Adam Buhler, resigned; John C. Meyer to be first lieutenant, August 10, 1869, vice W. W. Neidman, resigned; Joseph Burger to be colonel, August 23, 1869, vice Caspar Urban, resigned; Bernhard Wilhem to be assistant surgeon (first lieutenant), September 1, 1860, vice A. Hotzenroth, resigned; Joseph T. Schmidt to be adjutant (first lieutenant), September 6, 1860, vice August Fischer, resigned; Albin Gustav Pape to be quartermaster (first lieutenant), September 10, 1869, vice G. Voelcker, resigned; Charles H. Koch to be captain, September 22, 1869, vice Jacob Webber, resigned; Charles F. Peters to be first lieutenant, September 22, 1869, vice Charles H. Koch, promoted; Charles Schulte to be second lieutenant, September 22, 1869, vice Louis Sandhausen to be first lieutenant, September 23, 1869, vice Henry Kugeier, resigned; George Heid to be second lieutenant, September 23, 1869, vice Louis Sandhausen, promoted; Frederick W. Obenauer to be major, October 11, 1869, vice Joseph Burger, promoted.

Battalion, Thirty-second Regiment of Infantry.—Frederick J. Karcher to be captain by brevet, June 10, 1869; Thomas B. Butler to be quartermaster (first lieutenant), July 19, 1869, original vacancy; Joseph Seltz to be commissary of subsistence (first lieutenant), July 19, 1869, original vacancy.

Forty-seventh Regiment of Infantry.—George E. Orton to be captain, June 18, 1869, vice Thomas S. Cooper, resigned; Guy F. Goodman to be adjutant (first lieutenant), July 22, 1869, vice George E. Orton, promoted.

Fifty-first Regiment of Infantry.—Aldan C. Bush to be major, July 23, 1869, vice John T. Hough, resigned.

The following important circular issued from these headquarters by Major-General Woodward, is of the utmost importance to the members of the National Guard at large:

BROOKLYN, Nov. 29, 1869.

For the information of this command, it is announced that in order to obtain an authoritative decision in the matter of "tax exemptions," and to save all expense to the members of the command, the Major-General commanding caused a suit to be brought on his own account, as a test case, against the board of Assessors. The case was heard at the special term of the Supreme Court, held in Oct., by Judge Gilbert, who directed that a mandamus issue to the board of Assessors, directing them to allow the customary exemption to each member of the National Guard. From this decision, however, the board has appealed to the general term of the Supreme Court which will be held in December. The decision that shall then be rendered will be duly announced; and members of the National Guard, who are entitled to exemption, can safely delay the payment of their taxes until after this decision, as, on account of this litigation, the Collector has consented to waive the penalty for non-payment which would otherwise attach on Dec. 15th. If the judgment of the Special Term is sustained, the exemption provided by law will be allowed by the board of Assessors, to each member of the National Guard, without expense, upon proper proof of his being entitled thereto.

SEVENTH REGIMENT.—At an election held in Company F, on Tuesday evening, Nov. 30th, to fill vacancies, the following non-commissioned officers were elected: fifth sergeant, Corporal Chas. L. Cozzens, vice Sergeant E. R. Brenckenhoff, discharged; seventh corporal, Private Geo. Perault, vice Corporal William Hendricks, discharged; eighth corporal, Private John Hardy, vice Corporal Cozzens, promoted.

THIRD BRIGADE.—A very strong pressure has been brought to bear upon Brigadier-General Varian, to induce him to return to the command of this brigade, and we are happy to hear that there is little doubt of success. In fact we may state that the General has almost pledged his word to stay with his old command. The urgency displayed by prominent National Guard officers, is a handsome compliment to a most worthy officer.

ORGANIZATION—IMPORTANT CHANGES.—As we have before hinted, important changes are soon to take place in the organization of the First division. Adjutant-General Townsend arrived in this city during the past week, and we understand, will remain until the matter is definitely settled. We can say quite positively that at least one brigade will be abolished in the First division. The Second division will not be affected to any extent.

STATE EXAMINING BOARD.—This Board met at the State arsenal on the 29th ult., and continued its session until Friday, with very little result so far as the examination of officers was concerned. Of the many officers ordered before this Board for examination, only one appeared (Captain Reiss, of the Fifth regiment), and, in conse-

quence of extenuating circumstances, this officer was not examined to any extent, and will probably retain his position.

SERGEANT.—Peter D. Praester, the veteran standard-bearer of the Seventh, has recently hung in his billiard establishment on Fourth avenue, a chandelier of unique design, suggestive of his military associations. It is of bronze, the base representing a group of soldiers standing at "parade rest," and between them a stand of colors. Six miniature cannons are so made and placed that they may, if required, be used as burners, and on six extended arms stand six figures of soldiers in full-dress uniform, from the pompon of whose hats the jets of light issue. Grape shot, piles of shells and other military symbols, complete the ornamentation of the chandelier.

ELEVENTH BRIGADE.—On Wednesday last Brevet Colonel Wm. J. Irwin, the genial assistant adjutant-general of this brigade, left for the South, having received a furlough for the purpose of recruiting his health, which for some time past has been exceedingly poor. A large number of personal friends and officers of the Second division saw him off, and with us wished him a pleasant voyage and speedy return to health.

OTHER STATES.

MASSACHUSETTS.—*First Regiment.*—Company D (Roxbury City Guard) of this regiment practiced target firing on Thanksgiving forenoon. The company left the armory at 8:30 A. M., numbering thirty-two rifles, and marched to the marshes in the vicinity of Longwood. The target, measuring two feet by six feet, was placed at 150 yards' distance, and each member fired two shots, without any rest; the wind blew hard directly across the line of fire, and that, with the cold, which numbed the fingers of the men, prevented any very accurate firing. At the close of the firing the company returned to their armory, where, after examining the target, the company was called to order, and addressed by General Robert Cowdin, a fine member of the company, who presented the prizes as follows: For the best average shots, the company medal was awarded to Private J. H. Donnell; for the six best single shots, a Thanksgiving turkey was awarded each to Lieutenant W. G. Fish, Private J. H. Donnell, Private W. A. Black, Captain J. P. Gray, Private J. C. Barrett and Private C. B. Gilbert. This company is holding a series of socials, to which only the active and fine members are admitted. It is also having a set of gymnastic apparatus set up in the armory to interest members during the winter season.

In accordance with Special Orders No. 96, issued November 2d from Headquarters, a board of examiners, consisting of Colonel Charles F. Harrington, Seventh regiment; Lieutenant-Colonel Jas. McArdle, Ninth regiment, and Captain Thos. B. Griffith, Company L, Third regiment, assembled at the armory of the Seventh regiment on the evening of November 15th to examine into charges preferred against Captain Amos Cummings, Company K, First regiment. The board has held two meetings, and adjourned until November 29th, when the case will probably be closed up. The charges are preferred by Lieutenant Clapp, and consist principally of specifications to the effect that Captain Cummings paid certain members of his company to vote for him.

Seventh Regiment.—The regimental socials being held by this regiment at its armory have so far proved very successful, and have been attended by a number of the officers and members of other regiments. Company C has lately received quite an addition to its active list, and we understand it is nearly up to the maximum number.

LETTERS IN THE NEW YORK POST-OFFICE.

The following is a list of letters remaining in the New York Post-office on the dates given. These letters are retained in the New York Office for one month from date, after which they are sent to the Dead-Letter Office, Washington.

NOVEMBER 25TH.

Alison, Chas., Captain.	Leventhorpe, C., General.
Ashley, Major.	Melcher, F. B., Captain.
Bradley, T. W., Captain.	Nickerson, Oron., Captain.
Carstairs, Captain.	Smith, D. S., Colonel.
Forbes, Jas., Colonel.	Wilgus, J. W., Colonel.
Hunt, H. F., Major.	Willard, J., Captain.
Jones, S. B., Colonel.	Wilcox, M. C., Colonel.

NOVEMBER 29TH.

Bradley, F. W., Captain.	Hazen, Major-General.
Blagge, H. W., Colonel.	O'Hara, M., Captain.
Carier, Roy, Captain.	Palmer, W., General—2.
Carver, B., Captain.	St. Ange, S. E., Major.
Fitzhugh, L. H., Captain.	Laddley, T. T. S., Colonel.

Letters have been received at this office for the following persons: Major Clarence C. Cram, late Fourth U. S. Cavalry; Master W. H. Webb, U. S. Navy; Charles D. Southall, U. S. Navy; Master Thomas C. Terrell, U. S. Navy.

ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

SECOND CORPS.—General E. V. Sumner commanded the Second Corps from the 13th of March, 1862. The following is an extract from General McClellan's General Orders No. 151, of that date: In compliance with the President's war order No. 2, of March 8, 1862, the active portion of the Army of the Potomac is formed into Army corps, to consist for the present of the divisions of Franklin, McCall and King; Second Corps, Major-General Irwin McDowell, to consist for the present of the divisions of

Brigadier-General E. V. Sumner, division, Richardson, Bunker and Sedgwick.

ARTILLERY.—Neither the regulations of the Army, nor the custom of the service, requires a senior to first salute his junior. Senior adjutants do frequently salute a junior officer of the day, but it is by courtesy only.

S. R. H.—The Paymaster's Department must be governed by the law in determining whether an officer "awaiting orders" more than six months loses all pay and allowances. In our judgment, an officer "awaiting orders" is not, strictly speaking, absent either with or without leave, according to the technical meaning of the term.

H. R.—The Government pays transportation from California now, by the overland route, and not by the Isthmus.

GEO.—The General of the Army wears four stars upon his shoulder straps.

D. C. D.—The 114th and 115th paragraphs Revised Regulations of the Army prescribe what is required of officers and privates in the matter of wearing and possessing uniforms. The authority of the commanding officer to require those under his command to wear their uniforms anywhere in the neighborhood of the camp or garrison, cannot be questioned.

T. H. M.—The proper position of the cartridge at the command "handle cartridge" (breach loader), is with the cap part toward the palm of the hand.

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MARRIED.

[Announcements of Marriages should be paid for at the rate of fifty cents each.]

BRAUN—CORCORAN.—In Jacksonville, Oregon, Nov. 9th, Dr. C. B. BAILEY, Acting Assistant Surgeon, U. S. A., to Miss LUCY A. CORCORAN, both of San Francisco.

STANTON—KETTELL.—In Charlestown, Mass., on the 17th ult., by the Rev. T. R. Lambert, D. D., Lieutenant Wm. S. STANTON, Engineers Corps, U. S. A., to Lizzie, daughter of the late Geo. Ketell.

MACLAY—HAVEMEYER.—On the 20th ult., at the residence of the bride's parents, First Lieutenant J. W. MACLAY, Ordnance Corps, U. S. A., to Miss LAURA A. HAVEMEYER.

DIED.

PARQUHAR.—In Milwaukee, Wis., on Nov. 20, 1869, of scarlet fever, LAURA, eldest daughter of Brevet Lieutenant-Colonel F. U. and Mary H. Parquhar, aged two years and three months.

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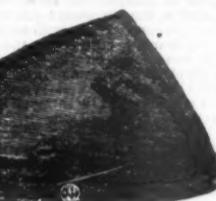
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